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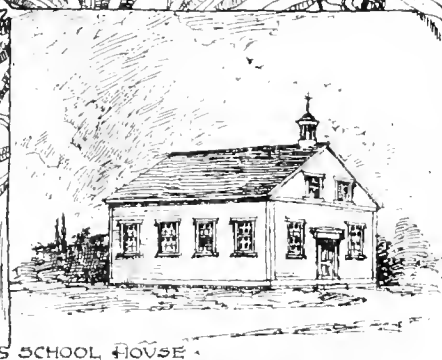
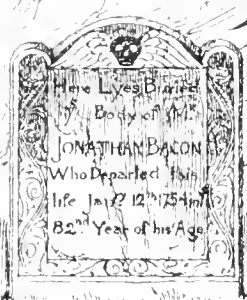


MEETING HOUSE · 1729.

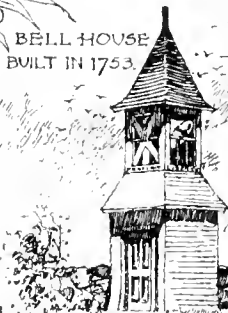


IN WHICH THE FIRST TOWN MEETING WAS ASSEMBLED BY

*Jonathan Bacon*



SCHOOL HOUSE ·



BELL HOUSE  
BUILT IN 1753.

"AS NEAR TO BENJAMIN  
KIDDER'S WALL AS CAN BE WITH  
CONVENIENCE."



BACON HOMESTEAD ·

# HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD,

MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS,

FROM ITS

EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1891.

INCLUDING

AN ACCOUNT OF INDIAN CLAIMS AND PROGRESS; COLONIAL GRANTS; SKETCHES OF ITS  
HEROES; ITS PART IN THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND THE WAR  
FOR NATIONALITY; ITS BURIAL GROUNDS AND EPITAPHS;  
ITS INDUSTRIAL SUCCESS, AND A RECORD OF  
ITS WHOLE PROGRESS.

WITH A

GENEALOGICAL REGISTER OF OLD FAMILIES.

BY ABRAM ENGLISH BROWN.

AUTHOR OF THE HISTORY OF THE FIRST SABBATH SCHOOL OF BEDFORD.

*Illustrated.*

"The kindly spot, the friendly town, where every one is known,  
And not a face in all the place, but partly seems my own."

"Write this for a memorial in a book." — EXODUS XVII. 14.

BEDFORD:  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.  
1891.

29-26  
102

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WILLIAM MIT  
JANUARY 10







*Abram English Brown*

DEDICATION.

TO THE MEMORY OF

**Jonathan Bacon,**

AND HIS ASSOCIATES IN THE WORK OF INCORPORATION.

THIS VOLUME IS GRATEFULLY INSCRIBED BY

THE AUTHOR.

"I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times," PS. LXXVII. 5.

"The fathers sleep, but men remain  
As true and wise and brave as they,  
Why count the loss without the gain?  
The best is that we have to-day."

WHITTIER.

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I

## SECTION II.

GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL.

I

## P R E F A C E.

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This volume is the outcome of a contract with the publishers of the History of Middlesex County to prepare a sketch of Bedford for that work, and of a series of papers read at the request of the citizens in public at different times.

Any seeming disconnection of subjects is due to the fact of the first twenty chapters having been prepared for the above-named work, and printed without regard to issuing a town history.

It is to be regretted that a volume of this character had not been completed at an earlier period and by other and abler hands. Two sons of the town, representatives of a generation earlier, began the work, but died before its completion. Such fragmentary notes of the late John W. Simonds as have been preserved have been at our command, but we have not had access to the more extended manuscripts of the late Josiah A. Stearns.

Various reasons have conspired to lead us to issue this volume. First, the rapidly thinning ranks of those who have stood as oracles, beyond the allotted age of man; since the preparation of this volume began, several aged people, who had treasured up a great store of anecdotes and incidents, have passed away, and with others the ear has grown dull, the eye dim, and the understanding clouded. In the anticipation of these changes we garnered some sheaves from their store-houses, and record them as precious memorials.

Another impelling motive is the imperative demand of the day for each town, however small, to have its annals in printed form, whereby its own people may be benefited, and by exchange of volumes, towns may become familiar with the inner workings of one another. A town may legally appropriate money for gathering and preserving its annals, but we have felt that other pressing demands must put the day far off when this town could reasonably be expected to make an adequate appropriation for a town history; hence we have endeavored to perform this service as best we could, without burdening any one.

We are happy to acknowledge much valuable assistance from many living sons and daughters of the town, without which we could not have done the work. We reluctantly forbear mentioning any, lest we might inadvertently omit some. Those who have at our request prepared special articles are credited with their labor of love in the chapters where their contributions are found.

Through the generous response of families to our invitation, the large collection of illustrations is added to the work, and the volume made doubly attractive and valuable.

Our primary object has been to make the book correct and readable. We have preferred not to weary the reader with our authorities, but have regarded the dates as sufficient guides to state, town and church records, from which we have necessarily gleaned freely.

Finally, this brief volume is submitted, with its many imperfections, to the people of whom it treats, trusting that they will excuse all errors and omissions, and exercise that degree of charity which circumstances demand.

ABRAM ENGLISH BROWN.

---

# PLAN OF BEDFORD.

## EXPLANATIONS.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| I. Gov. John Winthrop Farm, 1638.                  | 19. Joseph Fassett (later Wm. Page).        |
| II. Lieut.-Gov. Dudley Farm, 1638.                 | 17. Patrick Fassett.                        |
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| V. Edward Oakes Farm, 1649-1652.                   | 12. Zachariah Fitch.                        |
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| VIII. Squadron south of Oakes Farm, divided, 1707. | 1. Josiah Hill.                             |
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|  | 13. Benjamin Kidder (later Jeremiah Fitch). |
|  | 5. Job Lane.                                |
|  | 8. Hugh Maxwell (later Butterfield).        |
|  | 26. Cheever (later Taylor, later Mead).     |
|  | 25. Dea. Nathaniel Merriam.                 |
|  | 21. John Moore.                             |
|  | 16. Nathaniel Page.                         |
|  | 14. Dea. Israel Putnam.                     |
|  | 30. Stearns' Mill (later Hobbs').           |
|  | 6. Capt. Jonathan Wilson.                   |
|  | 10. Wilson's Mill (later Staples').         |
|  | 20. Woolley (later Henry Woods).            |
| 4. Obed Abbott.                                    |   |
| 9. Bacon's Mill (later Fitch).                     |   |
| 7. Michael Bacon.                                  |   |
| 2. Brother Rocks.                                  |   |
| 15. Bowman (later Robinson).                       |   |
| 18. Meeting House.                                 |   |
| 11. Eleazer Davis.                                 |   |
| 28. Stephen Davis.                                 |   |
| 27. Benjamin Farley.                               |   |

The author and the public are indebted to Mr. Charles W. Jenks for the following Plan.

This Plan is drawn after comparison of the Plan of Town of Bedford by Stephen Davis, about 1760, the Plan of Town of Bedford by Thompson Bacon, 1791, both in the office of the Town Clerk of Bedford; the Plan of Town of Bedford, 1791, the Plan of Town of Bedford by John G. Hale, 1830, both in the office of the Secretary of State; an old Plan of Billerica by Danforth, an old Plan of Bedford, both in the possession of the Mass. Historical Society in Boston; Beers' Map of Middlesex County, 1875; Hazen's History of Billerica; U. S. Geological Survey, 1886; and many smaller local plans.

The full black outline is from Bacon's Plan of 1791

and Hale's Plan of 1830. The dotted line ----- shows the difference in Plan of Stephen Davis (1760 ?)

The dotted lines ----- show the location of various grants. The Winthrop Farm lines are from a plan in possession of A. B. Cutler, Esq. The other lines are merely approximate, as the boundaries of the grants are irregular and difficult to determine.

The roads marked B are plotted from the Bacon Plan of 1791.

The points marked D are from the Davis Plan of (1760 ?)

The Roman numerals are used to designate the Grants.

The Arabic numerals show the location of the homesteads and points of interest.



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# AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE TOWN OF BEDFORD.

## CHAPTER I.

*The Parent Towns—Early Grants and Settlements—The First Settlers—Discharge of Indian Claims—Garrison's Incorporation.*

BEDFORD stands number twenty-five in the fifty-nine townships thus far incorporated in Middlesex County. It has a twin mate—Westford. They were both incorporated by the General Court September 23, 1729.

Bedford was taken from Concord and Billerica, but not until the parent towns had almost reached their first centennial. It then appears that the early history of the territory known as Bedford is included with that of the parental towns. That which may be designated as the south and west part of the town was taken from Concord, and the greater part of the north and east was from Billerica.

For nearly a century this territory comprised the outlying districts of Concord and Billerica.

It represents a part of the first inland town of Massachusetts and includes portions of very early grants.

A commendable pride prompts every true New Englander to seek for Puritan descent, and to date the settlement of his locality from the landing of those grand worthies. Hence, in considering the origin of Bedford, it may be admissible to repeat a few familiar facts of history, with their dates.

The Pilgrims landed in the year 1620. The charter of Massachusetts was granted in 1629, by King Charles I. In 1630 came Winthrop and Dudley with

fifteen hundred passengers. September 2, 1635, Musketaquid (Concord) was granted to Mr. Buckley (Rev. Peter Buckley) and ——— Merchant (Major Simon Willard), with other families.

November, 1637, the Court made grants to Governor Winthrop and the deputy, Mr. Dudley. In the following spring the grants were located, the original having been somewhat enlarged.

In June, 1641, "Shawshin is granted to Cambridge, provided they make it a village."

The town of Bedford comprises a portion of the Musketaquid grant, the whole of the Winthrop and a portion of the Shawshin grant.

The first house occupied by English, within the present limits of Bedford, alluded to in a report made in 1642 as the "Shawshin house," proves that the first settlement was made here within twenty-two years after the landing of the Pilgrims.

The nature of the land included in the above named grants is seen in reports and descriptions made about that time. Hubbard describes the Concord settlement as "right up in the woods," and Johnson as "in desert depths where wolves and bears abide," and the journey to it he describes as "through watery swamps, through thickets where the hands were forced to make a way for the bodies passage, and their feet clambering over the crossed trees, which when they missed, they sunk into an uncertaine bottome in water, and wade up to their knees, tumbling, sometimes higher and sometimes lower."

Of the grants made to the Governor and deputy (lieutenant), the whole of the former is included in the present limits of Bedford. Its western boundary

being Concord River. The grants were located 1638, May 2d, as follows:

"It was ordered by the p'sent Court that John Winthrop, Esq<sup>r</sup>, the p'sent Governo<sup>r</sup>, shall have 1200 acres of land whereof, 1000 was formerly granted him. & Thomas Dudley, Esq<sup>r</sup>, the Deputy Governo<sup>r</sup>, has 1000 acres granted to him by a former Courte, both of them about 6 miles from Concord, northwards; the said Governo<sup>r</sup> to have his 1200 acres on the southerly side of two great stones standing neare together, close by the ryver side that comes from Concord."

The deputy's was north of it within the present limits of Billerica. Winthrop has given us an account of the location of these farms in his journal.

"Going down the river about four miles, they made choice of a place for one thousand acres for each of them. They offered each other the first choice, but because the deputy's was first granted, and himself had store of land already, the Governor yielded him the first choice. So, at the place where the deputy's land was to begin there were two great stones which they called the Two Brothers in remembrance that they were brothers by their childrens marriage and did so brotherly agree, and for that a little creek near those stones was to part their lands."

A little later the Court added two hundred acres to the Governor's part, and still later he received an additional portion of sixty acres of meadow "within a mile or two of his farme, beneath Concord, towards the southeast of the said farme."

In 1636 Matthew Cradoek expressed a desire to obtain a grant of two thousand acres "at a place called Shawe Shym," and in 1637, August, "Capt. Jeanison & Leift. Willi: Spencer were appointed to viewe Shawshin & to consider whether it be fit for a plantation." The report was not made, however, until after it had been granted to Cambridge. The explorer's experience is thus described by Sewall as taken from Woburn records: "As they were engaged Nov. 9, 1640, shortly after their appointment, in exploring the land about the Shawshin river they were overtaken and lost in a snow-storm, and in this sad dilemma they were forced as night approached, for want of a better shelter, to lye under the Rockes, whilst the Raine and snow did bediew their Rockye beds." The following is the report of the committee, which is not as valuable for accuracy as it is helpful, in locating the Shawshin house:

"Wee, whose names are underwritten, being appointed to viewe Shawshin & to take notice of what fitness it was for a village & accordingly to of apprehensions make returne to the Ct; wee therefore manifest thus much: that for the quantity it is sufficient, but for the quality in of apprehensions no way fit, the upland being very barren & very little meadow there about, nor any good timber almost fit for any use. Wee went after we came to Shawshin house, by estimation. Some 14 to 16 miles at the least, in compass; from Shawshin house wee began to go

downe the ryver 4 or 5 miles near East; then we left that point & went neere upon north, came to Concord Ryver, a little below the falls, about one mile or neere; then wee went up the ryver some 5 miles untill wee came to a place called the Two Brothers: and from thence it is about two miles &  $\frac{1}{2}$  to Shawshin, & the most part of all the good land is given out already; more land there is at the south side of the house, between the side of Concord line & the heade of Cambridge line, but littell meadow, & the upland of little worth; & and this is what we can say heerin.

"SYMOS WILLARD.

"EDW<sup>d</sup> CONVERS."

The signers of the report were not the ones appointed for this exploration by the Court in 1637, but the former, Willard was a prominent inhabitant of Concord and Convers was of Woburn, and as such may have had an eye to this territory for their own advantage and hence were unconsciously influenced in making their report, which is not an accurate description of the land. After receiving the report of the exploring committee the General Court renewed the grant to Cambridge and specified the bounds: "All the land lying upon Shawshin Ryver & between that and Concord Ryver, and between that & Merri-mack Ryver, not formerly granted by this Co<sup>t</sup>." May 9, 1644, the Court "ordered that the ryver at Shawshin shall be called by the name of Shawshin."<sup>1</sup>

By a vote of January 2, 1654, a second division of land was made in Concord. "It was voted to divide the town into three parts or quarters;" as the east quarter, in part, fell to Bedford, it is to that division that we confine our investigation. The report of the committee to make the division is as follows: "The east quarter by their families are from Henry Farweles all eastwards with Thomas Brookes, Ensign Wheeler, Robert Meriam, George Meriam, John Adames, Richard Rice."

In 1663 the town voted "that every man that hath not his proportion of lands laid out too him, that is due to him, shall gitt it laid out by an artis" before 1665; "and that each one should give to the town clerk a description of their lands." Mr. Shattuck's table, made from the records, is helpful in showing some of the divisions that fall to Bedford: William Hartwell had 241 acres; John Hartwell, 17; Wm. Taylor, 117; Joseph Wheeler, 357; Caleb Brooks, 150; Thos. Pellet and Joseph Dean, 280; Eliphalet Fox, 106; others are indicated as being in the east quarter, but are omitted, as there is no reasonable certainty of their exact location. Each quarter had the care of its own highways and had a board of overseers to look after its interests. Mr. Shattuck says: "Regulations were established in each quarter, similar to

<sup>1</sup> The spelling of this as of many proper names of early colonial days is variable. Shattuck, in his history of 1833, seems to prefer "*Shawshin*." Walcott in his recent work, "*Concord in the Colonial Period*," accepts Shawshin as the more approved. In following his good judgment we use the latter form.



The Gentle and Deep Sea. The boat is a small one, and the water is very deep. The trees are bare, and the sky is overcast. The boat is on the water, and the stone wall is in the foreground. The water is very deep, and the boat is small. The trees are bare, and the sky is overcast. The boat is on the water, and the stone wall is in the foreground. The water is very deep, and the boat is small. The trees are bare, and the sky is overcast.



those in wards of a city. Each chose its own officers, kept its own records, made its own taxes," etc. The first overseers for the east quarter were Ensign Wheeler and William Hartwell (without doubt William L.).

The Governor Winthrop grant remained intact, and probably unoccupied until 1664, when it was sold by Fitz John Winthrop to Job Lane for £230. Mr. Lane was distinguished as an "artificer" and a "house wright." He paid for the Winthrop farm by erecting a mansion for Fitz John Winthrop at Norwich, Connecticut, and he built one of the college buildings at Cambridge. His skill and reputation are acknowledged in being selected as an "able and honest artificer for erecting a bridge over Billerica River." The contract made January 11, 1667, shows that he was to receive for the work "seven score and five pounds sterling;" "ten in cash, ten in wheat, ten in malt, and the remainder in corn and cattle."

The discharge of obligations, of importance like the two cited above, by the use of barter, suggests the state of the currency at that time. The conveyance of the Winthrop farm is made on vellum, now in the possession of the heirs of Mary Lane Cutler; the deed is in an excellent state of preservation, and after having lain in folds 225 years and changed custodians many times, can be read with comparative ease. It begins as follows:

"This indenture, made the second day of August, in the year of our Lord, one thousand six hundred and sixty & four, in the sixteenth year of the reign of y<sup>e</sup> Sovereign Lord Charles the Second, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King and defender of the faith. To wit: Between Fitz John Winthrop, of New London, in the Colony of Connecticut, in New England, Esq., on the one part, and Job Lane, of Malden, in the County of Middlesex, in New England, carpenter, on the other part."

The purchaser of the Winthrop farm was from Rickmansworth, in Hertfordshire, England, where he inherited property from which he received an annual income that he bequeathed to his son John.

Job Lane built a house very soon after he came in possession of the farm, 1664. The Hiram Dutton house is supposed to mark the spot, if it is not in part the original house. It was the only house in Billerica south of Ralph Hill's at the time of King Philip's War. Job Lane went to Malden some years before his death, which occurred in 1697, and established a home. He gave by will, the Winthrop farm to three of his heirs. They agreed to a division of the farm, which was found, by survey, in 1706, to contain 1500 acres. Each had a portion of upland, meadow and woodland, and many of the odd-shaped lots of land of to-day are the result of that division. Capt. John Lane had 750 acres, Samuel Fitch had 375 and Matthew Whipple had 375. The former, Capt. John Lane, was son of Job; Fitch and Whipple were

grandsons, who represented deceased daughters of Job Lane.<sup>1</sup>

There is no evidence that Whipple settled on his portion, but the others did, and some of the lots are held, in 1890, by their descendants, (the sixth generation).

The Shawshine grant included all of the remaining land that was set off to Bedford at the incorporation. Two small accessions were made later. It does not appear that Cambridge took action towards the settlement of Shawshine until April 9, 1618. Only those grants known to be in Bedford are mentioned here. Gookin (Cooking), had 500 acres; it comprised the northeast section of the present town of Bedford. The grantee was Capt. Daniel Gookin, and was thus publicly recognized as a valuable servant of the Colony. He was a faithful friend of the natives and a co-worker with the Apostle Eliot, and had a great influence with the Wamesit Indians. His name appears as Magistrate in 1681, before whom depositions were taken in regard to the Musketapit purchase of 1636. Rev. Joseph Mitchell had 500 acres. This was all purchased by Michael Bacon, in July, 1682, for £200. Nathaniel Page bought a grant of Grimes, in 1687. It contained 500 acres. Edward Oakes had a grant of 300 acres, extending from the Page land southward to "Concord Old Line." Thomas Oakes had 150 acres, extending from the Bacon purchase to Winthrop farm on the west. The Bedford Springs covers this grant.

"The great meadows," east of the Poor Farm, including sixty acres, constituted the last grant to Governor Winthrop. With the exception of the Winthrop meadows, all of the land remaining between Thomas Oakes, (Bedford Springs) and "Concord Old Line," bounded on the east by Page and Edward Oakes, and on the west by the Winthrop Farm, was known until 1708 as Billerica Commons, (the squadron south of Oakes farm) Bedford Village is included in this.

Dr. Page, in his "History of Cambridge," has the following: "Michael Bacon, of Woburn, bought of Rodger Shaw a farm in the northwesterly part of Cambridge (now Bedford), including all the meadows adjoining to the great swamp near the east corner of Concord bounds that falls to Cambridge. The Shawshine River runs from this swamp."

This must have been a second purchase of land in this town by Mr. Bacon. There still remains about 700 acres of the Shawshine grant within the limits of Bedford, the section east of the Page purchase and the Rev. Joseph Mitchell grant. This must include some minor grants, among which, doubtless, is that of thirty acres to John Wilson, in 1685, "for encouragement towards his corn-mill." The Billerica Common lands or "Squadron South of Oakes farm," be-

<sup>1</sup> The law of Massachusetts gave to the oldest son a double portion of a parent's estate, which may account for the unequal division.

fore mentioned as including the village of Bedford, containing 600 acres, was divided in 1708. The allotment, according to Hazen's Billerica, was as follows: "It is agreed that Lt. John Stearns should attend the laying out of the lots as fast as might be, and to carry the hind end of the chain, (*only* as to his own) and Daniel Hill or Henry Jeffs to carry the chain for said Stearns's lot."

"The first lot was granted to Lieutenant Samuel Hill including seventy-six acres bounded two hundred and forty rods on Concord, and sixty-four rods on Winthrop Farm. The main street in Bedford was afterwards located on the north line of this lot, and the 'old line' of Concord is now to be traced sixty-four rods south of that street and parallel with it."<sup>1</sup> The second lot of twenty-three acres was Fasset's, "Patrick Fasset's," and became the property of Israel Putnam, as did the third, granted to Joseph Hill. The two included fifty acres. The fourth lot was ninety-one acres, laid out to Jonathan Hill, next to Oakes Farm; and others following southerly were Nathaniel Hill, Joseph Farley, Daniel Hill, John Stearns, Henry Jeffs, John Parker and Job Lane, the last reaching Mr. Page's farm.

INDIAN CLAIMS.—Having obtained the English right to the territory the pioneers had an obligation to their predecessors, the Indians, to discharge; this may be regarded by some as only the demands of the moral law, yet it has been gratifying to all subsequent generations that it was faithfully discharged and of benefit to those who participated as it doubtless prevented much anxiety and bloodshed.

The disease that had visited the Indians previous to the coming of the Pilgrims, had reduced them in New England from more than 18,000 warriors to about as many hundred. Of the five tribes that were located south of New Hampshire, the Massachusetts occupied the territory north of Charles River and west of Massachusetts Bay, and was supposed to number about 300. They were divided into villages of which Musketaquid was one. Its limits were designated by the act of the General Court passed September 2, 1635: "It is ordered that there shall be a plantacon att Musketaquid, & that there shall be 6 myles of land square to belong to it." It embraced about two-fifths of the present town of Bedford, besides Concord and other lands. Of this tract of wilderness they obtained a quit claim from the natives in the following year. According to depositions taken in 1684 it appears that the deed from the natives was executed by Squaw Sachem a widow, who represented her late husband, Nanepashemet, Wappacowet, next in power to the King, who had claimed the widowed Sachem

in marriage, and by others of the tribe. The Indian title according to deponents was given in consideration of "Wompomepag, Hatchetts, Hows, Kuives, Cotton Cloath & shirts with a new suit of cotton cloath, a linnin band, a hat, shoes, stockins and a great Coat" for the new husband of squaw Sachem, he was "the pow wow, priest, witch, sorcerer or chirurgeon" of the tribe. When considered in the light of the present, the compensation was trifling, but it satisfied the natives and the treaty of purchase secured friendly relations.

The Indian settlement of the Shawshine Grant was known as Wamesit or Weymesit, situated between the Concord and Merrimack Rivers, being a favorable location for securing sufficient food. There is but slight evidence that the Bedford portion was frequented by the Indians of any village, although it is probable that the broad open plains were annually burnt over and rudely cultivated, while the birchen canoe of the red man plied up and down the Shawshine and Concord. The long mound or breastwork now seen on the east shore of the Concord River, in Greenwood's Grove near Bedford line, is suggestive of Indian origin and may have been built to aid in hunting.

All of the aboriginal claims to the Shawshine grant were extinguished by the "Wamesick Purchase of 1685." Thus the entire territory of Bedford was honorably obtained from the natives.

Billerica had thousands of acres of common grounds that were apportioned at different times among the early settlers. Those who had come later bought of the grantees and settled in the outlying district (now Bedford). They had not shared in the allotments, while they had paid their proportion of the charges. They petitioned the General Court, and on Friday, November 16, 1705, it was ordered "That Capt. John Lane, Jonathan Bacon, John Wilson and other, the Petitioners that are Freeholders & Inhabitants of the sd. Town of Billerica, be Intitled to & have a proportionable share with other the Commoners Proprietors, & Inhabitants of the sd. Town in all future Divisions of all undivided and waste Lands belonging to the sd. Town, according to their Proportion to the Town charges for the space of seven years past." The town in 1707-8, January 29, granted to the purchasers of Cambridge Church Farm a ten-acre right "to promote and maintain peas and quietness among us." Captain Lane and others who thus secured a right, received their portion in the subsequent divisions of the common grounds. Their portions seem to have been west of Concord River.

An accession was made to the town on the extreme northwest by which a small tract of the Dudley Grant was obtained. This was the Edward Stearns farm, set off from Billerica in 1766. By this addition the historic and enduring landmarks, "Two Brothers," or "Brother Rocks" were secured to Bedford.

<sup>1</sup> This is practically correct, yet a divergence southwesterly beginning a little west of the Trinitarian meeting-house, is thought by C. W. Jenks, a careful student of early bounds, to establish the "old line" somewhat different, in that vicinity of the town.

Evidence does not favor the supposition that the original grantees of Shawshine territory established homes or began the settlements included in this town and perhaps never viewed their landed possessions. "Extensive meadows bordering on rivers and lying adjacent to upland plains have ever been favorite spots to new settlers." A topographical survey shows that this territory offered attractions to settlers, and there is unmistakable local evidence that early settlers pushed out from the villages as soon as it was prudent and established homes near the winding Shawshine which in itself furnished power for industry. There are traces of roads long since discontinued. Depressions on the surface of neglected fields near which may still be seen the purple lilac and the thorny pear.

The General Court ordered in 1635 that no new buildings should be erected more than half a mile from the meeting-house "except mill-house and farm-house of such as had their dwelling-house in some town." This was a precaution against the Indians and lasted about eight years. This leads to the conclusion that the settlements in Bedford territory, previous to 1643 were confined to the Shawshine house. The "Corne mill" with its adjacent buildings, antedates King Philip's war (1676), and according to Billerica records the Bacon, afterwards Fitch mill was located before 1663. It is mentioned thus: "16: 1: 63. Will<sup>m</sup> Tay & George farley are Apoynted to Lay out a highway from the Towne, leading to Mr. Mitchell's farme, and to y<sup>e</sup> land y<sup>e</sup> was Lay<sup>d</sup> out for Mr. Edward Oaks' farme, on y<sup>e</sup> south East end of Mr. Winthrop's great meadow, to be layd out four polls wide."

The Shawshine House was one of the Indian trucking houses which preceded the first settlements of New England, where the natives bartered furs, etc., for English merchandise. And as appears by the report of the exploring committee was within the present limits of Bedford and possibly the Kenrick dwelling marks the site. The records of Billerica furnish evidence that it was occupied by a family, as Hannah, infant daughter of Henry Jeffs died "y<sup>e</sup> first weeke of May, 1653." This is the earliest event noted in Billerica Records. The first birth recorded was that of Samuel, son of George Farley, (March, 1654). The former, Henry Jeffs, may be the same person who has been shown as having a portion of the common lands in 1708, and the surname of the latter, Farley, we have seen in connection with a portion of the same land.

Michael Bacon, who purchased the Mitchell grant must have been located on the estate before he became the possessor, as births of his children are recorded as early as 1671, and if the first mill was built by him he must have been there before 1663, and then or very soon had neighbors as appears from the following record in Billerica, showing the assignment of families to garrison ("No. 10").

"13 6<sup>th</sup>, 175 (1675).

"At a publick Towne Meeting—

"The Towne, considering the providence of God at the present calling us to lay aside our ordinary ocasions in providing for our creatures and to take special care for the preserving of our lives and the lives of our wives and children, the enemy being near and the warnings by gods providence upon our neighbors being very solemne and awfull, do therefore order & agree joyntly to prepare a place of safety for women and children, and that all persons and teams shall attend y<sup>e</sup> said worke until it be finished; and account of y<sup>e</sup> whell charge being kept it shall be equally divided upon the inhabitants with other Towne charges."

At a meeting of the selectmen and a committee of the militia, held "14. Sm. 1675," a list of garrison-houses is reported, in which is the following:

"Also, Timothy Brookes house is allowed for garrison & to entertain Michael Bacon's family, & to have two garrison soldiers to defend y<sup>e</sup> mill & himself, y<sup>e</sup> master of the garrison. (Timothy Brooks bought of George Farley a part of the Oakes Grant in 1673)."

In the assignment of families to garrisons the records show that "Also, Job Laine was allowed to fortify his own owne house, and to have two soldiers for garrison-men to defend his house, in case y<sup>e</sup> country could spare them."

The settlements increased so that in 1728 an effort was made to secure the formation of a new town. Following the custom in forming a new township, petitions were made to the inhabitants of Billerica, by the settlers on that side of the proposed township, and to Concord by the settlers on the Concord side. The petitions were substantially as follows:

"To the gentlemen, the Selectmen and other inhabitants of Concord, in Lawfull meeting assembled: the petition of sundry of the inhabitants of the northeasterly part of the town of Concord humbly sheweth: That we, your humble petitioners, having in conjunction with the southerly part of Billerica, not without good advice, and, we hope, upon religious principles, assembled in the winter past, and supported the preaching of the gospel among us, cheerfully paying in the meantime our proportion to the ministry in our towns, have very unanimously agreed to address our respective towns, to dismis us and set us off to be a distinct township or district, if the Great and General Court or assembly shall favor such our constitution.

"We, therefore, the subscribers hereunto, and your humble petitioners, do first apply to you to lead us and set us forward in so good a work, which, we trust, may be much for the glory of Christ and the spiritual benefit of ourselves and our posterity. Our distance from your place of worship is so great that we labor under insupportable difficulties in attending constantly there, as we desire to do. In the extreme difficult seasons of heat and cold we were ready to say of the Sabbath: 'Behold what a weariness is it.' The extraordinary expenses we are at in transporting and refreshing ourselves and families on the Sabbath has added to our burdens. This we have endured from year to year with as much patience as the nature of the case would bear, but our increasing numbers now seem to plead an exemption; and as it is in your power, so we hope it will be in your grace to relieve us. Gentlemen, if our seeking to draw off proceeded from any disaffection to our present Rev. Pastor, or the Christian Society with whom we have taken such sweet counsel together and walked unto the house of God in company, then hear us not to-day. But we greatly desire, if God please, to be eased of our burdens on the Sabbath, the travel and fatigue thereof, that the word of God may be nigh to us, near to our houses and in our hearts, that we and our little ones may serve the Lord. We hope

that God, who stirred up the spirit of O'vins to set forward temple work, has stirred us up to ask, and will stir you up to grant the prayer of our petition, so shall your humble petitioners ever pray, as an duty bound, etc."

The petition had seventeen signatures, all from the Concord side. As many more petitioned from the Billerica side to their town. Concord granted her consent without objection, but Billerica clung to her outlying acres with more tenacity. This may be accounted for by the fact that she was being shorn of lands in other directions, and this new proposition, if successful, was to take some of her most valuable citizens. Their remonstrance did not avail at the Court, and the Act of Incorporation was passed September 23, 1729.

## CHAPTER II.

*Name—Boundaries—Benevolence—Records—First Meeting-house and Minister—Churches Founded—Taxes—Some Old Families and Sites.*

Why the petitioners prayed to have the new town called Bedford, is chiefly a conjecture; but we seem to see in it an act of reverence for the memory of the first minister of Concord, who was from Bedfordshire, England. The part which he had taken in moulding the character of the early settlers, must have had an influence on the succeeding generations, as the language of the petitioners for the new town seems to imply. The session of the General Court, which granted the act of incorporation, was held at Cambridge, and began August 28, 1729. The new town was vested with all the "powers, privileges and immunities that the inhabitants of any of the towns of this province are or ought by law to be vested with: provided that the said town of Bedford do, within the space of three years from the publication of this act, erect, build and finish, a suitable house for the public worship of God, and procure and settle a learned orthodox minister of good conversation; and make provision for his comfortable and honorable support, and likewise provide a school to instruct their youth in writing and reading."

By subsequent divisions Lincoln and Carlisle were taken from Concord, and Burlington from Woburn, so that Bedford is bounded at present on the north and northeast by Billerica, east by Burlington, south-east by Lexington, south by Lincoln, southwest and west by Concord, and northwest by Carlisle with Concord River as a division between Bedford and westerly towns. "The newe towne" known as "Newtowne," 1631; "Cambridge," 1638, and "Lexington," 1713, cornered upon Bedford, and later gave up a small portion to her. In the records of March, 1758, we see that Benjamin Farley and Joseph Fassett were granted the right to straighten the line between Lexington and Bedford, and the latter town then acquired the dismal tract known as "Farley Hole." In

1766 Ebenezer Page's land was joined to Bedford; this was done to straighten the line. When one, Grimes, petitioned to have his land set off to Lexington the town voted in the negative, and also placed upon record their willingness "to refer it to the wise and judicious determination of His Excellency, the Governor, and the Honorable Court."

The forming of a new town occasioned expenses for which money was needed, and land was called for on which to erect the meeting-house and for other purposes. These needs had been anticipated as appears by the records:

"Bedford, January the 20<sup>th</sup>, 1730.

"This is the account of the money and land that was given to encouragement for the Town in the year 1729." "Mr. Joseph Dean, Dea. Israel Putnam, Mr. Josiah Fassett, Mr. John Whipple, Mr. Benjamin Colburn, Mr. Samuel Merriam each gave land, and the following men are credited with gifts of money: Mr. James Lane, Cornet Nathaniel Page, Lieut. Job Lane, Mr. John Lane, Dea. Nathaniel Merriam, Mr. Job Lane, Mr. Joseph Bacon, Mr. John Hartwell, Mr. Jonathan Bacon, Mr. John Fitch and Mr. John Whitmore, of Medford." "The wife of Nathaniel Whitecot, of Concord, gave five pounds, old tenor."

With the records of the town-meeting of January the 7<sup>th</sup>, 1729-30, appears the following:

"Mr. William Hartwell gave five pounds and it was delivered to the selectmen, and 20 shillings of it went to pay Mr. Oliver Whitmore for Right in deeds and acknowledgin of them before him, for the law Book, two pound, for town book, ten shillings, and the money Remaining is one pound, eight shilling and two pence in the hand of Mr. Nathaniel Merriam. The law book was ordered to be passed about according to the judgment of the selectmen. With a sufficient tract of land and £61 in the treasury these determined people began the work of building up their newly incorporated town."

The records of the town open with the following:

"In Council September 26, 1729, voted that Mr. Jonathan Bacon, a principal Inhabitant of the Town of Bedford, bee and hereby is fully Impowered and Directed to assemble the Freeholders and other Inhabitant of the Town to convene as soon as may be to elect and choose Town officers to stand untill the next anniversary meeting in March.

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"In the House of Representatives, September: 26, 1729.

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"The simple statement of a name does not identify in some families, hence we note in this connection that Jonathan Bacon was a son of Michael purchaser of the Mitchell grant. Samuel Fitch was the head of the family in town. Nathaniel Merriam, dea., 1730, was first of the numerous family in Bedford, was descended from Joseph, of Concord, who died in 1616. Nathaniel died in 1738. Nathaniel Page was the third of the name in Bedford. Daniel Davis was son of Samuel and Mary (Medows), born, 1673. Israel Putnam, cousin of General Israel Putnam, born, 1699, was deacon, 1730; married daughter of Jonathan Bacon. Stephen Davis was father of Deacon Stephen, died 1738. John Fassett, treasurer, was son of Patrick died 1736. It is a coincidence of interest that his brother Samuel, was first treasurer of Westford (Bedford's twin sister).



The meeting-house was so nearly completed before the act of incorporation was passed that the first town-meeting was held in it, and at a second meeting held seven days later "The town excepted of the meeting-house, as the former commety had agreed with Joseph Fitch, for four hundred and sixty pounds." Like the houses of worship of the early settlers of New England, this offered but few attractions, save a shelter from the storms; but the people made haste to put it in a more attractive condition. At the same meeting they chose a committee "To see the meeting-house perfected and finished," and also "provide a minister." They voted to raise "Forty pound to maintain preachin among us," and provided "for a Reat of fifteen pound to defray the charges that shall be or may a Ries in the Town." Another action of the same meeting "was to chons this four men: Mr. John Fassett, Mr. Nathaniel Meriam, Co<sup>r</sup>. Nathaniel Paige, Mr. Josiah Fassett to tacke dedes of the land that is for the tow that is given or that is sold." In January, 1730, it was voted "to lot out the pue ground and seat the meting hous." The instructions to the committee were, "The man and his wife to set in the pue (excepting deacons), ther shall be but one poall to an e-steat in seating the meting hous and pues, and they are to have respect to them that are fifty years of age or upward; thos that are under fifty years of age are to be seated in the meting hous according to ther pay. The front foer seat in the galerec to be equal with the third seat below in the body of seats."

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in law of Mr. Bowes), was moderator of the council. Rev. Mr. Appleton, of Cambridge had a part in the service.

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The town of Bedford was now fully organized and in complete running order, both as a municipality and an ecclesiastical body, and was early recognized as such by the Province and neighboring churches. December 23, 1733, the deacons were chosen to represent the church at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Ebenezer Hancock, of Lexington, and in October, 1735, at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Clapp, of Woburn. The first recognition from the Province in the way of a tax was in 1730, amounting to £20 13s. 7d. There was also assessed the town's proportion of the representative tax in 1729, which was £7 19s. 9d., the minister's salary, the expenses of the ordination of Rev. Mr. Bowes, the allowance to Joseph Fassett "for time spent at General Court in perfecting our township, together with his pocket expenses while there," and the county tax, making a tax of £188 9s. 6d.

The allowance to Jonathan Bacon for his time spent "in perfecting our township," was £8 8s. 3d., doubtless paid from funds in the treasury. Such a drain on the limited income of the early settlers of Bedford must have been a severe trial of their courage, and especially hard after the town tax of the first year of their existence as a municipality. In 1729 they paid "a Meting-houses Reat of £306 8s. 3d.," and a "town and minister Reat of £51 15s. 4d." There is no evidence that more than two voters lost courage, and they were refused an abatement of their proportion of the tax.

There are but few of the farms of the town that remain in the same family possession as at the incorporation and only two instances where the descent of possession has not occasioned a change in the surname

that God, who stirred up the spirit of Cyrus to set forward temple work, has stirred us up to ask, and will stir you up to grant the prayer of our petition, so shall your humble petitioners ever pray, as in duty bound, etc."

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The town of Bedford was now fully organized and in complete running order, both as a municipality and an ecclesiastical body, and was early recognized as such by the Province and neighboring churches. December 23, 1733, the deacons were chosen to represent the church at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Ebenezer Hancock, of Lexington, and in October, 1735, at the ordination of Rev. Mr. Clapp, of Woburn. The first recognition from the Province in the way of a tax was in 1730, amounting to £20 13s. 7d. There was also assessed the town's proportion of the representative tax in 1729, which was £7 19s. 9d., the minister's salary, the expenses of the ordination of Rev. Mr. Bowes, the allowance to Joseph Fassett "for time spent at General Court in perfecting our township, together with his pocket expenses while there," and the county tax, making a tax of £188 9s. 6d.

The allowance to Jonathan Bacon for his time spent "in perfecting our township," was £8 8s. 3d., doubtless paid from funds in the treasury. Such a drain on the limited income of the early settlers of Bedford must have been a severe trial of their courage, and especially hard after the town tax of the first year of their existence as a municipality. In 1729 they paid "a Meting-houses Reat of £306 8s. 3d.," and a "town and minister Reat of £54 15s. 4d." There is no evidence that more than two voters lost courage, and they were refused an abatement of their proportion of the tax.

There are but few of the farms of the town that remain in the same family possession as at the incorporation and only two instances where the descent of possession has not occasioned a change in the surname

of the possessor. The estate owned by Josiah Davis has been in the family and name since 1696, when purchased by Samuel Davis (son of Dolor), one of the pioneers of Concord. It has passed through six generations from Samuel, in each of which there has been an Eleazer. Thirty-eight children in five generations of the name of Davis have been born on this estate.

The estate held by the heirs of Cyrus Page was purchased by Nathaniel Page in 1687. The present owners are of the eighth generation. The original dwelling is still standing. Mrs. Sarah Sampson owns and occupies the estate that came into the family possession about 1733, she is of the fourth generation of the family of Zachariah Fitch.

Lands on the Concord side of Bedford are still held by descendants of William Hartwell, who was among the pioneers of Concord, and the homestead was held in the family name and occupied by Hartwells continuously for two hundred years. The present house was erected in 1758.

The homestead of Benjamin Fitch has been held in the family and name since 1730, and the "corn-mill" of King Philip's War, on the Shawshine River, is still identified by modern buildings, but has passed from the family possession. Job B. Lane owns and occupies a portion of the Winthrop Farm that was purchased by Job Lane in 1664 and divided by his heirs in 1697.

"Stone Croft Farm," owned by Miss Caroline M. Fitch, came to the family by purchase in 1766. The dwelling was built about 1700. The mill site, on Vine Brook, near Shawshine River, was occupied by John Wilson as early as 1663.

The site of the first meeting-house is very nearly identified by the second, which is now standing.

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## CHAPTER III.

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### ECCLIASTICAL.

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*Relation of First Church and Town—Dismissal of Rev. Nicholas Bowes—First Bell—Ministry of Rev. Nathaniel Sherman and Rev. Joseph Penniman.*

THE ecclesiastical and municipal relations of the town are so thoroughly interwoven for the first century of her history that it is difficult to separate them; but as it is our purpose to briefly sketch the town's history, topically rather than in chronological order, we shall aim to treat of the social and political relations separate from spiritual and religious, now that we have combined the two sufficiently to show the steps of organization. By the early Provincial laws every tract of territory, when becoming a town, by the same act became a parish; hence the town of Bedford for little more than a century was the parish. They provided for the support of the Gospel at the

same meeting in which they made provision for building and repairing highways.

In our effort to separate the relations we shall class all that pertained to the house or service of worship as ecclesiastical.

The first three pastorates of the town were cut short for obvious reasons. Rev. Nicholas Bowes, the first pastor, was graduated at Harvard College in 1725, and ordained July 15, 1730, and was dismissed August 22, 1754, after a ministry of twenty-four years. Mr. Bowes came to the new town of Bedford under many flattering circumstances. He married Miss Lucy (Lucie) Hancock, the young and accomplished daughter of Rev. John Hancock, of Lexington. Soon after locating in Bedford, Mr. Bowes built a residence on the land deeded him by the town as a part of his settlement fee. It is now standing, and is a stately mansion, reminding one of the superior dignity attached to the pastoral office of that day. Eight children were born to Rev. Nicholas and Lucy Bowes while in this town. William, the oldest, born December 3, 1734, was baptized four days later by his grandfather, Rev. John Hancock. They all lived to maturity with the exception of Thomas, who died at the age of two years, eleven months. Of the pastoral acts of Mr. Bowes but little is known. The church and town grew and flourished; 161 were admitted to the church, and there were 303 baptisms. The rite was administered to all who owned the covenant and their children. Confessions were publicly made, but not carried to so great an extreme as in many New England churches. Intemperance and theft were frequently confessed. Mr. Bowes, together with nine other ministers in the vicinity of Cambridge, refused to admit Rev. George Whitefield to their pulpits in 1745, because of his denunciation of Harvard College and many New England clergymen. Through some indiscreet acts the pastor's usefulness was brought to a close, and satisfactory confession being made, he was dismissed, and it was voted—"That he be owned and treated as a brother in good standing and charity." He could not have lost his influence in the town, as he was employed to teach the school in the following winter. In 1755 he was chaplain in the Northern Army, at Fort Edward, and died at Brookfield on his return home. But little more is known of his family, save that his daughter Lucy went to live with her maternal grandmother, the widow of Rev. John Hancock, and there made the acquaintance of her grandfather's successor, Rev. Jonas Clark, of Lexington, and became his wife. The estate was sold to John Reed, and still remains in the family. It was near the close of the first pastorate before the town purchased a bell. In April, 1753, "Voted, to buy a bell not exceeding six hundred nor less than five hundred pound weight." They also "voted to build a house of sufficient height to hang the month of the bell sixteen feet from the ground." The "Bell-house" was some rods from the

meeting-house. The bell was ready for use at the time of the dismissal of the first minister, and in the treasurer's accounts of that year, Deacon Israel Putnam is charged with an order "for lamb for the council and hemp for the bell-rope, 5 shillings." The meeting-house was the shrine of these early settlers, doubly precious because of their great sacrifice to erect it, and because of the great distance formerly traveled to reach the house of God. On April 5, 1731, they voted "that it should be swept six times a year," and Deacon Israel Putnam performed the service for ten shillings a year. In 1743 the pay was increased to £1 15s., "Old Tenor," and John Mansfield hired to sweep it twelve times a year and "attend to opening and shutting the doors." In 1733 the young men were refused the "kind seat in the gallery," and the pew next to the pulpit stairs was made "a ministerial pew."

The town and church concurred in extending a call to Rev. Nathaniel Sherman, and he was ordained February 18, 1756, "having preached twenty-six Sabbaths, one Fast and one Thanksgiving" during his candidacy. He was given, as a settlement fee, £113 6s. 8d., and an annual salary of £53 6s. 8d., and twenty cords of wood annually, "after he shall come to need it for his own firing."

Mr. Sherman was brother of Roger Sherman, the distinguished patriot of Connecticut, and endowed with both talent and culture. As a young, unmarried man he entered the work of the gospel ministry in this place. He married Lydia Merriam, March 1, 1759. She was the daughter of Deacon Nathaniel Merriam, of this town. They had three children born here, one of whom, Thaddens, died August 22, 1765. Mr. Sherman was a man of feeble health, and labored under difficulties. Notwithstanding the oft-repeated breaks in his labors, his pastorate was regarded as very successful—forty-six were admitted to church and sixty-seven were baptized by him. It was during the ministry of Rev. Mr. Sherman that Hugh Maxwell, of Bedford, consecrated himself to the service of Christ and became the "Christian Patriot," whose biography, published in 1830, is a most inspiring work.

A controversy arose in the churches of New England, about the time of the settlement of Mr. Sherman, concerning the "half-way covenant," by which persons were admitted to the privilege of baptism without admission to the communion. November 6, 1765, the Bedford church voted "that there should be but one church covenant." Faith in Christ, repentance for sin, holiness and a belief in the Assembly's Catechism were required of all candidates.

Some of the changes were unpopular; the affections of the people were alienated from the pastor, and the relations entered upon for life were brought to a close. Upon the request of the pastor an ecclesiastical council was called and gave advice in the matter, in which the town concurred. The record of the

church is: "Upon the request of the Rev. Nathaniel Sherman, the church then dismissed him as a brother of the church and recommended him to the Church of Christ in Mount Carmel, New Haven." He was installed there and preached many years. He died at East Windsor, July 18, 1797, aged seventy-three years.

The dismissal of Rev. Mr. Sherman caused not only the severing of pastoral and social relations, but family ties were sundered, and the town had no settled minister for a period of three years, during which time the church agreed upon the terms of communion as follows: "This church will have but one covenant and therefore require the same qualifications in all; yet if any person can desire to enter into covenant and receive baptism for himself or children, and yet fears to approach the Lord's table at present, he shall be received, he promising (though he come not immediately to the Lord's table) that he will submit to the watch and discipline of the church."

Rev. Joseph Penniman was the third minister of the town, ordained May 22, 1771. He received a settlement fee of £133 and an annual salary of £66 13s. 4d., and fire wood.

In planning for the service of ordination the town voted "that the day should be religiously observed throughout the town in accordance with the solemnity of the occasion;" determined as much as in them lay to prevent "all Levity, Prophanness, music, Dancing and frolicking and other disorders on <sup>st</sup> Day." A committee of five was chosen "to open the meeting-house and to keep the seats below the deacons' seat and town's pew for the church and council." A new pastorate was an occasion for advanced steps: 1773 "Voted to bring in Doct. Watt's versions for the present, and to have Messrs. Jeremiah Fitch and James Wright sett in the fore seat in the front gallery as they are appointed to begin the Psalm or tune." The fluctuation in the currency of the country made it necessary for the town to grant relief to their pastor, and in 1780 the town voted "to grant Rev. Mr. Penniman one hundred bushels of grane, fifty of Rye and fifty of Indian Corn." The people manifested their gratitude for a successful termination of the Revolutionary struggle by repairing their meeting-house. It was then clap-boarded and covered with a coating of "Bedford Yellow," a sort of mineral paint found in the town. The old bell and bell-house were also repaired. Like the people of the town, they had seen hard service during the war.

The bell had sounded the alarm on April 19, 1775; rung for liberty when the Colonies declared their independence; pealed forth its notes of rejoicing over the surrender at Yorktown, and by its cracked tongue and faltering notes, most fittingly suggested the sufferings of the people during the war, in its final attunement to swell the volume of thanksgiving, following the treaty of September 3, 1783. The pastorate of Rev. Mr. Penniman covered the years of struggle for free-

dom from the mother country, and was successful in many respects. Forty-one were added to the church and one hundred and eighty-three baptisms are recorded during his ministry.

Some of the public acts of Mr. Penniman gave evidence of extreme eccentricity, which increased by repetition until the church took the following action July 12, 1793:

"The church met at Deacon James Wright's and held a conference with each other respecting the unchristianlike behaviour of their Pastor, Mr. Joseph Penniman, the last Lord's day, it being communion day, and every member of said church being grieved thereat."

The conference resulted at length in the dismission of Mr. Penniman October 29, 1793. In the light of the present, it would be declared that strong drink caused the trouble. Rev. Joseph Penniman was born in Braintree, and graduated at Harvard College in 1765; after his dismission he removed from Bedford to Harvard, where he died. He was possessed of respectable talents. Social customs of his time aggravated natural eccentricities and led to extreme peculiarities of expression, particularly in public prayer. At the funeral service of his townsman, Captain Jonathan Wilson, who was killed at Concord, April 19, 1775, he is said to have uttered the following: "We pray thee, O Lord, to send the British Soldiers where they will do some good, for Thou knowest that we have no use for them about here." When visiting the school of the town he is said to have used the following expression in prayer: "We pray thee, O Lord, that these children may be well trained at home, for if they are not, they will act like Sarpints when they are abroad." The act that led the church to close the doors of the meeting-house against the pastor brought the town into public reproach. While the people were seriously considering the circumstances a roughish fellow placarded the doors of the meeting-house with the following brief summary of affairs:

"A wicked priest, a crooked people,  
A cracked bell without a steeple."

The bill for entertaining the Council at the dismission of Mr. Penniman amounted to £33 0s. 4d. 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>. There were born to Rev. Mr. Penniman and Hannah Jackson, his wife, while in Bedford, four children, two of whom died here and were buried in the old cemetery. The epitaphs now seen upon the crumbling headstones are most suggestive of the peculiarities of the father. They are quoted in this connection:

"December 22, 1790, HANNAH, daughter of Rev. Joseph Penniman and Hannah, his wife, aged 18 yrs., 4 mos., 11 days.

"Alas! now, no notice do you give  
Where you are and how you live!  
What I am you then bound by solemn fate,  
To keep the secret of your state?  
The alarming voice you will hear,  
When Christ, the Judge, shall appear.

Hannah! from the dark lonely vault,  
Certainly soon and suddenly you'll come,  
When Jesus shall claim the treasure from the tomb."

"August 21, 1778, MOLLY, aged 3 yrs., 6 mos., 3 days.

"Ah! dear Polly, must your tender parents mourn,  
Their heavy loss, and bathe with tears your min,  
Since now no more to us you must return."

## CHAPTER IV.

### ECCLESIASTICAL.

*The Clergy of New England—Rev. Samuel Stearns—Page and Hartwell Fowl—Will of Anna Page—New Meeting-house—Singing-School—Sabbath-School.*

THE clergy of New England, in its early years, constituted what may be styled an educated aristocracy and to a large degree circumscribed their order by intermarriage. The common people were so burdened in their struggles with the Indians and with foreign nations, together with their efforts to subdue the wilderness and maintain their families, that but little time was left them for self-culture. Their education was limited and they relied upon the clergy for much of their moral and religious sentiment. The fourth minister was Rev. Samuel Stearns and the last called by the town in its parochial capacity. He was ordained April 27, 1796. Mr. Stearns was a grand type of the New England clergy. He was the son of a minister, and his paternal and maternal ancestry were of the clerical profession. He had inherited a truly pious spirit and was possessed of a firm and decided nature. He was a graduate of Harvard College and studied theology with Rev. Jonathan French, of Andover, whose eldest daughter (Abigail) he married, May 7, 1797, "a lady of rare fortitude, energy, intelligence and practical wisdom, as well as piety." For nearly thirty-seven years Rev. Samuel Stearns was the teacher, leader and undoubted friend of this entire people, and no one person ever did more in this town to mould the character of the rising generation and lead the passing generation "into green pastures and beside the still waters of eternal peace." During this ministry so many reforms were introduced and grand changes made in both secular and religious affairs that they cannot be hastily passed by. In preparing for the ordination of the fourth minister the town voted to take down the cracked and useless bell, "sell the bell-house at public vendue, level the ground on the south side of the meeting-house and prop up the galleries." Interested people flocked from the neighboring towns; families of two or three, mounted on the back of one horse, were seen galloping in from different quarters and the meeting-house was filled long before the hour appointed for the service. The Common was covered with booths in which the venders of food and various

wares carried on a lively business. Rev. Jonathan French, of Andover, preached the sermon. His text was Isaiah xl. 1-5. The new pastor bought the estate occupied by his immediate predecessor in office and settled in the midst of his people. The large mansion-house which he occupied during his life and the surrounding acres are still in the possession of the family. Mr. Stearns received from the town as a "settlement" eight hundred and fifty dollars and an annual salary of three hundred and thirty-three and one-third dollars and twenty cords of fire-wood. Through a depreciation in currency the salary was changed at different times until it reached five hundred dollars per annum. Mr. Stearns also had a loan from the town of one thousand dollars, without interest, from 1801 till his death. The new minister's regard for order and system began to make an impression at once, as the church and town records plainly show. The custom of public confession of certain sins was abandoned and cases of discipline were conducted with the best of judgment. There was one case that kept the church and town in a state of disturbance for years and involved many important questions and resulted in cold-blooded murder. The light of the present has a mitigating effect on the case, for had the present scientific and humane treatment of incipient insanity been in practice the sad act might have been averted. Mr. Stearns was possessed of a fine musical talent, having a rich tenor voice, which contributed to awaken an interest for music in the town, particularly in sacred music. In May, 1798, the town voted "that the four pews in the front gallery are assigned to the use of the singers." A tuning-pipe keyed on A was then in use and held as a valuable piece of the town's property. November 1798, the town appropriated twenty dollars for singing-school. In 1815 the town's viol was placed in the hands of Deacon James Wright, "for the purpose of assisting in taking lead in sacred music." Mr. Stearns never voted in town affairs, but was conducted to the place of meeting by the selectmen and began proceedings with prayer, after which he retired.

September 6, 1812, the town chose a committee "to receive the donations given to the town by the widow Anna Page and Mr. William Page, deceased, and to take care of and apply the use of the same, agreeable to the wills of the donors." By these wills and that of Samuel Hartwell, probated in 1822, "The Page and Hartwell Fund" was created. The following is the preamble and clause relating to the town in the will of Anna Page. The others are similar in expression and provision:

"In the name of God, Amen.

"I, Anna Page, widow and relict of Thomas Page, late of Bedford, in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Yeoman, deceased. . . . I humbly commit and commend my soul to God my Creator, in and through Jesus Christ my Redeemer, whose righteousness and grace are all my hope for pardon and eternal salvation. My Body I recommend to a christian burial at the discretion of my Executor in the blessed hope of a joyful resurrection at the last day. . . .

"Taking into consideration the vast importance and necessity of supporting the Gospel ministry, it is my will that after my Executor shall have paid all the foregoing legacies—all debts, bills of cost and charge of every kind,—all the remainder of my estate of any kind and wherever found, be appropriated to that use, and accordingly I do hereby give and bequeath said remainder to the town of Bedford as a fund to aid in the support of the Gospel ministry, to be disposed of in the manner following. That is to say: The capital of the fund shall be put and always kept on interest, upon good security—with sufficient sureties for the same. One-sixth part of the income arising therefrom shall be annually added to the principal as an increasing fund forever—the other five sixths parts of the annual income to be appropriated annually in aid of the support of the Gospel ministry in the present standing order of congregational order forever, and no part of said fund shall ever be appropriated in aid or support of any other than the present standing congregational order forever, and no part of the said fund shall ever be appropriated in aid of any suit at law or any contention whatever, and my will further is, that three persons, all belonging to the church, shall be annually chosen by the town as a committee to take care of the said fund, and that a Book shall be kept by the town clerk, for the time being in which shall be fairly entered this clause in my will and also the capital of the fund and the annual income thereof together with the annual appropriations and expenditures of said income, to be kept open for the perusal of all persons therein concerned forever—but my will further is, that whenever the income of the said fund shall be more than sufficient for the support of the Gospel ministry in Bedford, the remainder of the income of said fund shall be appropriated to support the Poor, Teaching Sacred Music, and the support of Schools or Public buildings, and my will further is, the said sum, whatever it may be found to be, shall be paid by my Executor to the committee to be chosen for the above purpose, in two years after my decease, and a true report of the said fund, with the annual appropriation and expenditure thereof, shall be annually made to the town by the Committee having the care of the same forever, which report shall be recorded by the town clerk in the Book which is kept by him for that purpose forever.

"Dated, signed and sealed, February twenty-third, 1810

"ANNA PAGE."

The town being residuary legatee received from the estate of Anna Page \$663.93. The Samuel Hartwell legacy was \$300, and that from William Page was \$500. For some years the trustees of these funds were chosen in town-meeting and the record-book was kept by the town clerk, but for the last half-century the First Parish has appointed the custodians and the Unitarian Church received the income. The "Page & Hartwell Fund" (now 1889) amounts to \$2691.78. The church received by the will of Anna Page a solid silver flagon, costing \$140, and by vote of the church a second flagon was procured at the same cost. A silver cup was donated by Mrs. Hannah Merriam. By other donations and purchases the church was now furnished with an elegant solid silver communion service in place of the pewter dishes thus far used. Rev. Samuel Stearns was kindly remembered by this trio of public benefactors. The irregularity of the windows in the meeting-house is suggested by votes like the following: September 3, 1804, voted, "To allow Mr. Jeremiah Fitch to put a window in his pew in the northwest corner of the meeting-house in any part thereof." May 19, 1783, voted, "To allow Timothy Jones the liberty to put in a glass window in the meeting-house on the back side of his pew at his own cost." With the exceptions of such additions the people were contented in the old house of worship, but the great "September gale" of 1815 devastated the noble forests, and hundreds of stately pines lay prostrate. The people seized upon this as

an opportunity for procuring lumber at a reasonable rate, and the town voted to build a new meeting-house. The last service in the old house was in July, 1816, and in the following week the frame was stripped and demolished—such timbers as could be utilized were selected for the new house.

The frame was prepared and put together on the ground and pulled into place a side at a time, by the assembled multitude, who had gathered on the morning of July 8th, and at the appearance of the sun were ready for the order "Bear it up." On the 17th of the same month the people assembled for a service of Thanksgiving on the floor of the new house. When the house was completed, the town chose a committee—

"To appraise the pews by assessing the whole expense of building said house, including extra bills, etc. (leveling the common and hanging the bell-ropes), on the same according to rank and situation of said pews. . . . It was further voted 'that no town-meetings nor trainings or choosing militia officers shall ever be held or done in the meeting-house, and no other town business shall be done in said house, except by permission of the selectmen for the time being, and that this vote shall be annexed to the article for the sale of the pews.' 'No person shall hang his hat on any post or on the wall of the house, or on any other machine about the taking of the pews on the lower floor, in the body of said meeting-house, nor on the front of the galleries, nor on the walls in the galleries.'"

The house was dedicated July 8, 1817. Rev. Samuel Stearns, the pastor, preached the sermon, which was, later, published in pamphlet form. This was the first dedication service held in the town, it being contrary to the New England spirit and custom when the first house of worship was completed.

James Wright, Jr., was appointed to the responsible position of "sexton." His duties were carefully defined, not the least of which was "to carry into the house the basin of water for the ordinance of baptism, when requested."

The bell, imported from London by Jeremiah Fitch for the town, was first rung on the morning of July 8, 1817. Mr. Fitch contributed the clock to the town, which is ornamented with a gold-mounted eagle and balls, and still marks off the hours in the meeting-house; but the bell, being rudely handled in a seeming display of patriotism, was rendered useless and sold in 1863, by the First Parish, and has not been replaced. The cost of the meeting-house was \$6623. The pews sold for a sum sufficient to liquidate the debt, and left a balance of \$487, which was assigned for a ministerial fund, by a vote of the town. The "Page Fund" was of use in providing an annual singing-school, and in 1818 Leander Hosmer was employed by the town "To perform sacred music for said town for ten dollars pr. year, on a Bass Viol, and furnish himself with a viol."

In July, 1818, a Sabbath-School was organized, which proved to be one of the first Church-schools in the country, the history of which, prepared by the author of this sketch, was published by the Trinitarian Sabbath-school, in connection with the celebration of its seventieth anniversary in 1888.

## CHAPTER V.

### ECCLIESIASTICAL.

*Separation Between Church and Town—Trinitarian-Congregational Society Organized—Their House of Worship—Work of Unitarian Church and First Parish—Death of Rev. Samuel Stearns—Stearns' Descendants—Church of Christ.*

PROSPERITY followed the erection of the meeting-house, and peace and harmony prevailed until the autumn of 1831, when a difference in opinion, which had for years existed between the Trinitarian and Unitarian Congregationalists of New England, reached that point here, where the relation between the pastor and people was most severely tried. The love of the pastor of this town for his people, and their strong attachment for the one who had given the best of his life in their service, the regard of many for his feelings in his declining years, together with the unswerving fidelity of the pastor to the principles that he had proclaimed when ordained for the Gospel ministry in this town thirty-five years before, may be assigned as some of the reasons for the severity with which the storm beat upon the community. The church was rent asunder, and the remainder of the ecclesiastical history of the town, as regards the Protestant faith, will be viewed in two separate channels, viz.: The First Parish with the Unitarian Church and The Trinitarian Congregational Society with the Church of Christ. The First Parish, and church connected with it, held the meeting-house, all of the funds and communion service, while the Trinitarian Congregational Society and associated church began their work with empty hands. June 4, 1833, the two resident male members of the church who remained with the First Parish met and chose as trustees William Page and Charles Spaulding, and adopted a new covenant, and accessions were made to their numbers. After the stated supply of Rev. Mr. Davis and Rev. Robert Walcott, Rev. Joshua Chandler, a graduate of Harvard College, was settled over the church and society. He was succeeded by Rev. George W. Woodward. In May, 1846, he removed to Galena, Illinois, and a series of stated supplies followed—the last of whom was Rev. Jonas Whitman, pastor at Lexington, who continued in charge until his death, in 1848. Services were then discontinued and the house of worship closed, until it was remodeled in 1849.

In April of that year Rev. William Cushing accepted a call to act as stated supply. Mr. Cushing took a great interest in education, conducting a private school in connection with his pastoral work; his successor was Rev. George W. Webster, who was installed as pastor in August, 1860. Extreme peculiarities, tending to mental disease, impaired his usefulness, and after a year and a half, during which the





THE WHITE METHODIST CHURCH



church and society relaxed in vitality, he left the charge and entered the Union army from this town. The house of worship was closed for a period of twelve years. It was reopened in the autumn of 1869, and Rev. Grindall Reynolds took charge of the parish in connection with his pastorate at Concord. His call to the position of secretary of the Unitarian Association necessitated a change. Revs. Milstead and Russell acted as stated supply until 1884, when Rev. George Piper assumed the pastoral care of the society in connection with that at Carlisle. During his pastorate the meeting-house has been thoroughly remodeled, the church revived, and the ordinances regularly observed. In addition to the income of the "Page and Hartwell Fund" the society is aided by the Unitarian Association.

The Trinitarian Congregational Society immediately erected a house of worship on land given by Mr. Jeremiah Fitch, of Boston, a native of Bedford. The building-lot was directly opposite the Stearns mansion, and was given in consideration of the regard of the donor for his neighbor, teacher, pastor and friend.

The relation between Rev. Mr. Stearns and the town was dissolved by a mutual ecclesiastical council, and he accepted a call from the Church of Christ and Trinitarian Congregational Society of the town, in their united capacity. Services were regularly held in the dwelling house of Rev. Mr. Stearns until the society completed a meeting-house. Mrs. Hannah Reel presented the church with a suitable communion service. Many of the citizens, who had but fifteen years before, 1818, paid large sums for their pews in the town's meeting-house, had now freely given a titling of their possessions for the erection of another house of worship, and, free from debt, the church and society resumed the work of proclaiming the gospel in the Evangelical faith. Rev. Mr. Stearns died in December, 1834, and the fourth and most notable pastorate was brought to a close.

The body of Rev. Mr. Stearns was interred in the family vault in the old burial-ground, and there remained until the death of his widow, Madam Abigail Stearns, in 1858, when they were both deposited in cemented vaults on the western slope of Shawshine Cemetery.

Of thirteen children born to Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French, eleven reached maturity. No other Bedford family has exerted so great an influence in the world of letters. They all received the highest advantages for education that the schools afforded. The five sons were all educated at Phillips Academy, Andover, and at Harvard College, and the four who became clergymen attended Andover Theological Seminary. Of thirty one grandchildren twenty-three are living. Almost all have received a liberal education. Of the grandsons, two are professional men and one an artist of rare ability; five granddaughters became teachers, four married professional men; a number are authors of books or writers for leading periodicals. The

descendants in the third and fourth generations are numerous and prominent in the world.

The young man who, in the flush of youth, dedicated himself to the higher interests of the people of Bedford, had become old in their service and been gathered with the fathers. More than five hundred people of the town died and the entire membership of his church had been gathered during his ministry. There were admitted to the church one hundred and forty-three members while worshipping in the new meeting-house, before the separation.

Rev. Jonathan Leavitt succeeded Rev. Mr. Stearns, and has been followed by Rev. S. Hopkins Emery; Rev. Oren Sikes, who died in office December 15, 1852; Rev. Henry J. Patrick, now of West Newton; Rev. W. J. Bart, now moral instructor at the Massachusetts Reformatory; Rev. George Lewis; Rev. Edward Chase; Rev. Otis D. Crawford; Rev. George E. Lovejoy, now of Franklin, Mass.; Rev. Howard A. Hanaford, now of Winchester, N. H., and Rev. Edwin Smith, who took the charge August 1, 1886.

The church has a present membership of one hundred and eighty. That element in our nature which leads us to value things in proportion to their cost was plainly evident in the careful manner with which the people of this town who formed the Trinitarian Congregational Society guarded its interests, and that healthy activity that is generally found among societies that depend entirely upon their own efforts for support has been manifest through the half-century of its existence. No ministerial fund has been established. Small legacies bequeathed to the church have been applied to the promotion of the work and memorials of the donors added to the ornaments of the house of worship. In 1886 the house was repaired, enlarged and refurnished to suit the demands of the times, about \$7000 being expended.

Adherents of the Romish Church have gradually settled in town, constituting a very respectable class in society, among whom may be found some of the most thriving farmers. Becoming weary of a journey of five miles to attend worship (as were the first settlers of the town), they erected a chapel in 1885, which is well furnished and adapted to their use; they maintain religious services in connection with the church at Lexington, Rev. P. J. Kavanaugh being the priest in charge.

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## CHAPTER VI.

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### SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES.

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ONE of the highest of the municipal functions is education. This was incumbent upon the founders of Bedford by the act of incorporation: "Provided that the said town of Bedford do, within the space of three

years from the publication of this act, erect, build and finish a suitable house of worship, and procure and settle a learned orthodox minister of good conversation, and make provision for his comfortable and honourable support, and likewise provide a school to instruct their youth in writing and reading." Many of the founders of this town knew the worth of education through the want of it. Their parents had enjoyed literary advantages in the mother country, but in seeking religious liberty they had lost secular advantage, and in their struggle to establish homes in the wilderness had often failed to instruct their children in the rudiments of education. The children of the scattered settlers were by far the greater sufferers; situated four or five miles from the village, they could not attend the few weeks of school that were furnished, and doubtless some of the originators of this town never attended a school of any kind. Until 1733 the church was the only school, and during several succeeding years the principal means of education. The minister was the instructor, and he was well supported. In January, 1732-33 the town raised five pounds, equal to about three dollars (according to Shattuck), for public school that year. This must have been an act of the new town to comply with the incorporation act—"space of three years"—and have been a provision for the winter only, as appears from the following record: "Of the School Reat that was made by the assessors in 1733, there was committed to Mr. Jacob Kendall, constable, to collect £5 10s. 7d., and to Mr. Richard Wheeler £5 16s. 2d.," making a tax of £11 6s. 9d., which, according to the same authority, was equal to about seven dollars in the currency of that time. In December, 1733, it was voted "to settle a moving school and hire a master, for which purpose an appropriation of ten pounds was made.

For several years one school only was kept and moved about as justice and convenience demanded. The teachers were generally selected from the people of the town, but in one of the early winters, Rev. Ebenezer Hancock, of Lexington, taught the school and boarded with his sister, wife of Rev. Nicholas Bowes. The town bought a dwelling-house of Benjamin Kidder in 1741, for £12, old tenor, and arranged it for a school-house. In 1742 the school moved into the four quarters of the town, and £10 was expended for the teacher's salary, he "boarding round." In the following year the centre school was opened and £30 granted for its support. Previous to this but little attention was paid to giving instruction in any branch beyond those required by the ordinance of 1647, viz.: writing and reading. In 1744 a part of the appropriation was allowed for schools in the "quarters" to be taught by "school dames." In the succeeding fourteen years a school was kept at the Centre a few weeks in the winter and during the remainder of the year a "moving-school" was taught by a lady. Text-books were few and rule and the rod was applied without stint. One may judge of the monetary value of pro-

fessional services by the records of 1754-55, when Rev. Nicholas Bowes, the first minister of the town, dismissed in August 1754, taught the school in the following winter, five months for £9 6s. 8d., and boarded himself. In 1758 a "writing-school" was kept four months in the village and a "woman's teaching-school" six months in the quarters of the town, although it was years in advance of the legal requirements. The interest in education was not abated during the Revolution, yet in two instances the teachers' services were gratuitous. Intelligent women gathered the children of the neighborhood in their dwellings and were rewarded by a vote of the town after the war ceased.

The people in the "quarters" were obliged to furnish house and fire-wood without public charge in order to have a school. The district bounds were not arbitrary as yet, and the most ambitious children would follow the school from one quarter to another, which was allowed if they furnished a share of the fire-wood. The consequent attainments and usefulness of some families is evident in succeeding years.

In 1780, when Captain John Moore was chosen the first representative to the "Great and General Court," the town voted to have three months "writing-school" and six weeks "women's school" in each quarter of the town. The term "writing-school" was to designate this department of education from the merely fundamental instruction of the "women's school." In the former "cyphering" was taught as well as writing, and also the principles of language and "decent behaviour." The "sums" were "set" by the teacher and the work done on unruled coarse paper and carefully saved as trophies of victory seldom won by the gentler sex. In teaching writing, the instructor was required to prepare the copies, give advice in the formation of letters and also respond to the oft-repeated calls "Please sir, mend my pen?" In March, 1790, there was a partial awakening to the demands of systematic education. The school-tax was assessed as a distinct rate, and the town voted that "such school masters as the law required" should be employed four months in the year, and four months writing-school should be kept at the centre, "and when the master had a very full school he should attend principally to those that write and cypher."

In 1789 the Legislature provided for districting the towns, and Bedford undertook the task, which proved to be a difficult one. For sixty years the only accommodations for schools in the "quarters" were in private houses; but in 1792 a long and trying experience resulted in a vote to raise £100 with which to build a school-house in each quarter and made provision for a school to be taught in each. In 1793 the pride of the residents at the "centre" asserted itself in a vote "not to have any woman's school." The annual appropriation at the close of the century had reached the sum of \$300. The closing years of the eighteenth

century mark a very important epoch in the interests of education in Bedford. Rev. Samuel Stearns came, as the fourth minister to the town. He was an eminent scholar, young and energetic, and possessed of rare qualities for leadership, which he judiciously used. For more than thirty years every progressive step in education bears the impress of his cultured mind and careful hand. The limited advantages for education were not urged upon girls, and when one of the sex manifested a desire to push beyond the fundamental principles she was subject to ridicule. The evil, not confined to this town, received early correction here. In 1797 Rev. Mr. Stearns inaugurated a female seminary, which was one of the very early institutions of the kind in New England. Young ladies from this and neighboring towns were instructed by him in the higher branches, many of whom were fitted for teachers and made most commendable records in the profession. The vote of 1799 "To employ only such masters as the law requires," cut off many ignorant aspirants for the office, but it did not reach the question of methods, and Rev. Mr. Stearns soon began to exert an influence in that direction. Rev. William F. Stearns, D.D., of Amherst College, records the following method for teaching the alphabet in the opening years of the present century, as practiced upon himself: "The master pointed with his pen-knife to the first three letters and said: 'That's A, that's B, that's C'; now take your seat and I will call you by and by, and if you can't tell them I will cut your ears right off with this knife.'" This was doubtless an extreme case, but the reform movement of the nineteenth century was well advanced before the youth were exempt from the caprices of teachers. In 1798 the town appropriated twenty dollars for a singing-school.

In 1804 the first system of by-laws for the government of the schools was adopted and put in force. Ignorance of teachers was guarded against. The winter school was regularly opened and closed with prayer. The Bible was read in all of the schools as often as once a day. The Assembly's Shorter Catechism was taught weekly, and every member under the age of fifteen years was obliged to carefully attend to such instruction. It was expected of all male teachers "that they frequently and carefully impress upon the minds of the youth the principles of virtue and piety, as connected with their responsibility and usefulness in life, and also highly essential to the support and well-being of our free Republican form of government, as required by law." For more than thirty years the Assembly's Shorter Catechism was one of the required text-books. Another text-book was Morse's Geography, the first book on the science published in America. In the scarcity of text-books the "School Fathers" required it to be used by the "first class" as a "reader." In 1806 a school-house was built at the centre, in place of the old building that had been remodeled for school purposes seventy-three years

before. The annual appropriation then reached six hundred dollars and sixteen weeks of schooling were provided; only two schools were in session at any one time, and pupils were not confined to district limits. This led at length to a bitter quarrel in the East District. The master lost all authority, and the committee failed to restore order or peace. The several sections were arrayed violently against one another. The east quarter boys were on one side called by their enemies "Shoberkins and Sharks." The boys from the centre and north were united as an opposing force and named, from their locality, "North-quarter hogs and city pigs." No day was without its battle. Many parents sided with their children and things grew worse and worse, until the town took it in hand and voted, April 5, 1813, "To set off the East part of the town as a school district, according to law, and that they draw their proportion of the school money according to the valuation of estates in that section." A town library, chartered by the General Court, was now in a flourishing condition. Each school district had a "prudential committee" to attend to the local interests of the school, and the town annually chose a committee of inspection whose duty it was to regulate the text-books, to provide supplies for poor children and adjust all difficulties. An examination of all teachers was required as to moral and literary qualifications. The by-laws were remodeled in 1819, and "master's schools" were required to be opened and closed with prayer, and the record further says, "which practice also is particularly recommended to the serious consideration of female instructors, who will be permitted to use an approved written form of prayer." It was found difficult to enforce rules and secure uniformity in text-books until 1827, when an agent was appointed to furnish supplies at cost, and was paid for his services, by the towns. This custom prevailed until 1884, when the State passed the law requiring towns to furnish all school supplies and made the schools literally free.

The people were now beginning to receive the benefit of the "Page and Hartwell Fund." A certain proportion of the income was required to be expended for teaching sacred music. A singing-school was inaugurated in 1827, and held annual sessions at the centre for the benefit of the whole town. In 1829 a two-story brick school-house was built at the cost of \$2216.13. This furnished ample accommodation for the schools and for town business. The annual session of the singing-school for the benefit of the whole town was held in the "commodious" building until 1837, when the income for teaching sacred music became a denominational benefit. The apparatus of the school-room was meagre, indeed, until 1841. The open fire-place had given way to a close stove which necessitated the cutting of cord-wood sticks once in two, but this, with the "master's desk" and "battered seats" constituted the entire furnishings. A primitive volume called "The School-Book"

was furnished each town by the State in 1806, in numbers equal to the districts. This town sold the volumes at "vendue." In 1840 the School Committee filed the first school report. In 1811 the sum of one hundred dollars was appropriated for maps and philosophical apparatus. Efforts were made in 1841 and 1850 to establish a High School, but without success. The first printed report of the School Committee was circulated in 1847, and in the following year each district was furnished with "Webster's Dictionary." The annual appropriation for schools reached \$800 in 1847, and \$1000 in 1856. This amount had been annually increased by the income of the "surplus revenue fund." An unsuccessful effort was made about 1850 to establish a free public library, but an association was formed and a library started, by which superior advantages were furnished for a small compensation.

In 1850 the town received an unexpected benefit through the will of Zadock Howe, of Billerica, by which a seminary was founded and endowed for the benefit of this as well as other towns. The public gratitude was manifested by spreading a copy of the will upon the town records, and individual appreciation was manifested by turning to the Howe School for higher instruction.

In 1852 the demand for a high school was gratified, and of \$885, the school appropriation for that year, \$285 was apportioned for the trial of the experiment. It was abandoned after a trial of two years. The school-house in each "quarter" of the town stood as "a ragged beggar sunning" after sixty years of hard service, and in 1854 new houses were built at the east and north, and the west was thoroughly repaired, and a new one was soon erected at the south. In 1856 the brick house at the Centre was torn down and the present building, combining two school-rooms with a town hall, was erected at a cost of \$8524. Mr. Charles Lane, of Boston, presented a valuable clock to the town for its use in the new hall. He was the same person who fell some years later, at his own threshold in Dorchester, by the assassin's bullet.

The dedication of the new building was an event of much importance, as the principal parts in the exercises were taken by sons of the town. Mr. Josiah A. Stearns gave the dedicatory address and Mr. John F. Gleason a poem; among other speakers was Mr. Charles Lane, the donor of the clock.

The efforts put forth in the erection of the new town building had a stimulating effect upon education among all classes of society. The youth were inspired with commendable ambition in school work and their elders sought improvement through the lyceum. The town appropriation now reached \$1000. This was increased to about \$1200 by the income of the surplus revenue, and the State School Fund, which was established in 1834. The town expended the "surplus revenue," and increased the annual appropriations to \$1100 in 1861. The half-day session of Saturday was

discontinued by the vote of the town in 1863. In 1872 an attempt was made to concentrate the directing power and to employ a superintendent, but this unfortunately resulted in an increase of the board of committee from three to six members. The results were not satisfactory, and a return was made to the original number as soon as the State law would admit. Women were first elected as School Committee in 1872, and have proved wise and efficient workers in the department of education.

At the annual meeting of the town, in 1885, it was voted that the schools should be graded, that an English high school course of two years should be adopted, and that the school year should begin with the opening of the fall term. This plan, put in operation September, 1885, had a most stimulating effect upon the students in the several departments, and led the parents to indorse a growing sentiment for consolidation.

In June, 1886, the first graduates were presented with diplomas. The course of study was altered and amended in 1889, so as to include three years of High School study, in which is the Latin language. The appropriation gradually increased until it reached \$2800, for ordinary expenses, to which is added the town's portion of the income of the "State School Fund." An annual appropriation is made for school-books and supplies.

After thirty-three years of service, the combined town hall and school building was declared inadequate to the pressing demands of the evening of the nineteenth century, and preliminary steps have been taken, 1890, towards the erection of a modern structure. In the schools of Bedford, thus briefly described, have been laid the foundations of some grand literary structures.

As the date is comparatively recent when progress has unbolted the doors of colleges to women, the list of those who have received a public education is confined to men.

In 1876 the Bedford Free Public Library Corporation was chartered for the benefit of the inhabitants of the town.

The property of the Bedford Library Association was donated and became the nucleus of a valuable collection of books and other publications. Every resident of the town having reached the age of twelve years has the right to draw books from the library without payment of fee. Appropriations by the town and private contributions have enabled the trustees to make frequent additions until in 1890 there are nearly 3000 volumes for circulation, besides many valuable works for reference, and a collection of antiquities, relics and articles of historic interest. The town has an annually increasing fund for the erection of a library building, much needed at present.

A local weekly paper, *Bedford Bulletin*, is published in connection with other towns, under the editorial care of Abram E. Brown. It is now in its thirty-

third volume. It has an extensive circulation in the town and in various sections of the United States where natives of Bedford are located.

## CHAPTER VII.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

*Indian Troubles—Individual Services—Experience of Mary Lane—Marshall Family—French Controls—French and Indian Wars.*

THE war cry was not an unfamiliar sound to the settlers of this territory. They were accustomed to hardships, many of them had done service in the early campaigns, and sacrificed blood and treasure long before the Revolutionary struggle burst upon the Colonies. Of the garrison-houses ordered by the "Honorable Council" in 1675, during the invasion of King Philip, four were within the present limits of Bedford. As the Bedford of to-day represents outlying sections of Billerica and Concord, the homes of these scattered settlers did not suffer from any general invasion in the Indian Wars. Many of the men were away in the service, and the women were compelled to do double duty at home.

It is impossible to make up a complete list of those who served in the early campaigns. Job Lane was "impressed," but doubtless allowed to return and aid in the protection of his own garrison, agreeable to the order of the "Honorable Council" of 1675-76, Sec. 4. "The said towns have their own men returned that are abroad and freed from impressment during their present state." Lieutenant John Wilson, who had a "corne mill" on Vine Brook, did good service "to the Eastward" in 1692-93. Lieutenant John Lane received the following order in August, 1693: "These are in his Majesty's name to require you forthwith to Impress eight Troopers with arms and ammunition for his Majesty's service, four of which are to be daily Employed as a scout about yo<sup>r</sup> town, especially towards the great swamp."

In 1693 Lieutenant Lane received similar orders from the Lieutenant-Governor, and in 1702 he received the following order from Governor Joseph Dudley:

"CAMBRIDGE, 5 Nov., 1702.

"SIR: I desire you with two of your troops to repair to the towns of Marlboro', Lancaster, Groton, Chelmsford and Dunstable and there deliver severally the letters given you and encourage the officers in their duty, agreeable to the several directions, etc."

It is evident that the Governor of the Colony was personally acquainted with Major Lane, he having attained that military title at that time, and knew him to be a trustworthy man. In the Lane papers filed in this town is the following:

"A list of the names of the Troopers which served under my command to the relief of Dunstable. July

the fourth, seventeen hundred and six." Six of the twenty-nine were from Bedford side of ancient Billerica, viz.: Samuel Fitch, Josiah Bacon, Nathaniel Page, Nathaniel Bacon, Benj. Bacon, Josiah Fassett. In the succeeding August, under the same command, Josiah Bacon served as "Trumpetter" and Josiah Fassett with Benjamin Bacon were privates. The following anecdote was related by Leander Hosmer, a descendant of the heroine of the Lane family: "Mary, daughter of Colonel John Lane, was left during a season of alarm in the garrison with but one soldier on guard. Something behind a stump excited the suspicion of Mary, as she looked from a window in the roof. The soldier declined to open fire, and she took the gun and discharged it and saw a dead Indian roll into sight." The Lanes had an inherent love for military life. One writes from York, April 21, 1724: "Lt. John Lane has been so imprudent as to suffer his men to kill sundry creatures belonging to the people of the County of York." He afterwards made satisfaction for the rash act.

By an act of the General Court, November 17, 1724, men were allowed two shillings per day for time in service and £100 for each male scalp in addition to other premiums established by law. This offer of the government was an approved means of defence against the Indians, and aroused Captain John Lovewell, of Dunstable, to raise a company and set out into the wilderness. He made three expeditions, during which several Indians were killed and others were captured alive. The third and memorable expedition of April 15, 1725, proved the most disastrous to the company, nearly one-third being killed, among whom was their leader. In each of the expeditions Bedford men participated, and Josiah Davis was killed, Eleazer Davis wounded, and others experienced the most painful hardship.

From a published sermon of Rev. Thomas Symms, preached at Bradford, on the Sabbath following the return of the unfortunate company, the following account of the suffering of some of the number is taken: "Eleazer Davis, after being out fourteen days came into Berwick. He was wounded in the abdomen and the ball lodged in his body. He also had his right hand shot off." A tradition says that, arriving at a pond with Lieutenant Farwell, Davis pulled off one of his moccasins, cut it in strings, on which he fastened a hook, caught some fish, fried and ate them. They refreshed him, but were injurious to Farwell, who died soon after. Josiah Davis, another of the four, was wounded with a ball which lodged in his body. After being out fourteen days, in hourly expectation of perishing, he arrived at Saco emaciated and almost dead from the loss of blood. He recovered, but became a cripple." This manner of dealing with the Indians must be severely questioned, and enlisting to pursue the scattered remnant of homeless natives for such a purpose as actuated Lovewell and his followers must be condemned:

but the narrative serves to show the hardships to which the founders of this town were accustomed and by which they acquired the habits of self-reliance so evident in their later history.

The Maxwell family furnished some brave military men during the French and Indian Wars, and also in the struggle for freedom from British oppression. Hugh Maxwell entered the service as a private, served five campaigns and held a commission from Governor Pownall as ensign, dated March 31, 1759. Thompson, brother to Hugh, was with "Rogers' Rangers" at the destruction of St. Francis and all through the French and Indian Wars. He entered the service at the age of sixteen years. Lemuel Shattuck says: "Several of the inhabitants of Bedford sustained commissions."

The descendants of Nathaniel Page, who settled here in 1687, were commissioned officers for several generations: Cornet Nathaniel Page, born in England in 1672, died in Bedford, 1755; his son, John, born in 1704, held commission as cornet from Jonathan Belcher, Colonial Governor in 1737. Ensign Josiah Fassett was at the relief of Fort Williams in May, 1758. Sergeant Page, of Bedford, was with Thompson Maxwell in 1758. Maxwell had a hand-to-hand conflict with two Indians,—he shot one and brought the other "to a halt." He says in his published journal: "Being exhausted, I reached a stream and Page swam across with me on his back with his gun and my own. I could not swim. In 1759 our suffering from cold and hunger cannot be described; thirty-seven of our number died on the banks of the White River in Vermont, where Royalston is now built. Sergt. Page was with us and a very stout man. He helped me or I doubt how it would have fared with me." "Nathaniel Merriam (son of Dea. Nathaniel) died at Lake George in his Majesty's service, Sept. 15, 1758, aged 19 years."

When the "French Neutrals" were taken from their Arcadian homes and portioned out in the Colonies, Bedford had her share to provide for. Joseph Fitch and John Moore filed the following bill: "The Province of the Mass. Bay Indebted to the Town of Bedford—To providing for the French Neutrals ordered to said town the 16 of Feb. A.D., 1760, 'till the 17th of June, 1761, £21 7s." Bedford men were at Crown Point, Ticonderoga and at the decisive engagement on the plains of Abraham, and also on the northern frontiers, where troops were kept to watch the Indians until the treaty of peace was concluded, in 1762, by which Canada became a British possession. It is gratifying to know that their services were appreciated as appears from the following:

Voted on March 2, 1763, "To abate Josiah Davis, his son Paul, lately deceased, and Joseph Wilson, their town and Highway Rate and all other soldiers their Highway Rate." Thirteen received abatements. In 1763 the people of this town entered into the "Thanksgiving" ordered by the King for the restora-

tion of peace, with the same will that they had manifested during the protracted war. They labored under the disadvantage of having no minister to inspire or guide them from 1766 to 1771. The minister was the vanguard in many towns. Concord had her Emerson, and Lexington her Clark, but in the absence of such a leader in Bedford, there was no faltering on the part of the people. Hugh Maxwell, the "Christian Patriot," came to the front with somewhat of the heroism and organizing power which inspired his father to lead his entire family across the ocean to escape oppression. There were other brave men whose names appear in the subsequent years of trial.

## CHAPTER VIII.

*Colonial Troubles—Boston Tea Party—Mud-Men—Concord Fight—Women's Part—Battle of Bunker Hill*

MARCH, 1768, the town voted "To concur with the vote of the town of Boston in October last, to encourage the produce and manufacture of the Province." The women were not behind in expressions of loyalty. They carried on spinning and weaving at an increased rate. A bride from one of the first families of the town is known to have been led to the marriage altar dressed in a "gown" of her own manufacture, the fruit of her own loom. The town sent no representative to the General Court until the Revolutionary struggle was well under way. The "letter of Correspondence" sent out from a Boston town-meeting asking for "a free communication of sentiments," was received and acted upon with a spirit of determination on March 1, 1773. In the following March the town voted "not to use any tea till the duty is taken off." In the "Tea Party," December 16, 1773, Bedford was represented by Thompson Maxwell, although not at that time a resident of the town. His journal reads thus: "In 1773, I went with my team to Boston, which was shut up (blockaded), with a load of provisions for the poor of the town. I had loaded at John Hancock's warehouse and was about to leave town, when Mr. Hancock requested me to drive my team up into his yard, and ordered his servants to take care of it, and requested me to be at Long Wharf at two o'clock P.M., and informed me what was to be done. I went accordingly, joined the band under Captain Hewes. We mounted the ships and made tea in a trice. This done I took my team and went home as an honest man should."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fearing that this narrative and others that will follow, might be regarded as too good to be credited, we have carefully studied the facts and have no doubt of the validity of the journal. John Hancock, the famous patriot and merchant of Boston, inherited the estate of his



When "Boston Port Bill" went into operation, June 1, 1774, the old bell pealed forth the sound of alarm over the hills of this town, and the already crumbling "Bell-House" lost its equilibrium, but not so the people. They met on the last day of June, "To know and determine what measures are Proper to be taken at this present time of Trouble and Distress," etc. They unanimously voted to adopt the covenant of non-intercourse. They chose the Committee of Correspondence, which consisted of Deacon Stephen Davis, John Reed, Joseph Hartwell, John Webber and John Moore.

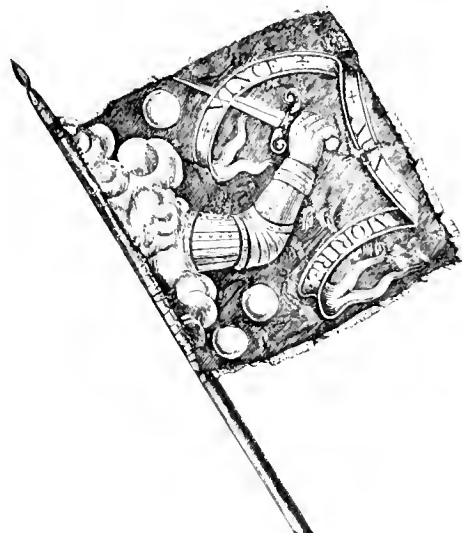
The town was represented by four delegates at the county convention held at Concord on August 30th and 31st. On October 11th the town was represented by Joseph Ballard and John Reed in the first Provincial Congress, which had met by adjournment from Salem on the 6th. John Hancock was chairman and Benjamin Lincoln clerk. After a session of three days the Congress adjourned to meet at Cambridge, and then continued from October 17th to December 10th.

Devotion to a noble cause prompted the Representatives from this town, as there was no offer of compensation from a depleted treasury, but in March, 1775, the town voted "To allow Doct. Joseph Ballard four shillings per day, for twelve days at Cambridge, and four shillings for expenses at Concord."

January 18, 1775. They at first voted not to send a delegate to the Provincial Congress of February, but on the 27th, in a second meeting, chose John Reed, and, agreeable to a recommendation of the Continental Congress, chose a "Committee of Inspection" consisting of Moses Abbott, Thomas Page, Ebenezer Page, John Reed and Edward Stearns. At the Provincial Congress held at Concord and Cambridge, the plan was adopted for enrolling all the able-bodied men, and the order passed "that these companies should immediately assemble and elect their proper officers; that these officers, when elected, should assemble and elect field officers, and they enlist at least one-quarter of the men enrolled." These were the "minute-men." The people of Bedford gave hearty assent to the appointment of Henry Gardner, of Stow, as treasurer of the Province, and made payment to him rather than to the royal treasurer.

In March, 1775, the town voted "to pay twenty-five 'minute-men' one shilling per week until the first of May next,—they to exercise four hours in a week, and two shillings to be allowed two officers, they to equip themselves according to the advice of

the Congress." While John Reed was laboring in the interests of the town in the Second Congress, the minute-men were being faithfully drilled and the company of militia as well. The minute-men of Bedford were a fair specimen of those forces, so hastily prepared for war, of whom Lord Percy said: "We never saw anything equal to the intrepidity of the New England minute-men." The officers of the minute-men had no commissions, as did those of the militia already in service; hence their authority came through the suffrage of their associates. The Bedford minute-men organized by choosing Jonathan Wilson as captain and Moses Abbott as lieutenant; Cornet Nathaniel Page was standard-bearer.



The banner illustrated on this page was carried by Cornet Nathaniel Page in the company of minute-men from Bedford to Concord, April 19, 1775. It had, doubtless, been in the Page family in this town for nearly a century before the Revolution. It was returned to the Page mansion after the opening scenes of the war, and there kept until the centennial celebration at Concord, April 19, 1875, when it was carried with the Bedford delegation in the procession of that day. Ten years later, October 19, 1885 (the one hundred and fourth anniversary of the surrender by Cornwallis to Washington), it was presented by Captain Cyrus Page to the town of Bedford.

It was thus brought to the attention of the Massachusetts Historical Society at their meeting in the following January, when Mr. Appleton reported upon it as follows:

"It was originally designed in England, in 1660-70, for the three-county troops of Massachusetts, and became one of the accepted standards of the organized militia of this State, and as such it was used by the Bedford company." Mr. Appleton said that in his opinion "This flag far exceeded in historic value the famed flag of Eutaw and Pulaski's banner, and, in fact,

uncle, Thomas Hancock. The warehouse alluded to, was a portion, and had been in the family for many years; here the country farmers had exchanged their produce for other wares, the Maxwells among them, very naturally, as they must have become interested in the family through Ebenezer Hancock, brother of Thomas, who had taught the Bedford school and boarded with the family of Rev. Mr. Bowes, whose wife was his sister. The mutual acquaintance had led John Hancock to confide the secret of destroying the tea to a worthy friend whose warlike spirit was gratified in this daring act.

is the most precious memorial of its kind we have any knowledge of." The three-county troops, referred to above, originated thus: In May, 1643, the whole Colony of Massachusetts Bay was divided into four shires—Middlesex, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk, named from the English counties. In the same year, 1643, a new organization of the militia was determined upon, and the Colony forces were divided into three regiments. Middlesex had one, Suffolk one and Essex was joined with Norfolk in one. The valuable relic now owned by the town of Bedford is, without doubt, the banner carried by the Middlesex Regiment.

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
Here once the embattled farmers stood,  
And fired the shot heard round the world."

—EMERSON.

The "Lexington Alarm List," in the archives of the State, gives Bedford credit for twenty-six minute-men, but has no record of the captain, Jonathan Wilson, who was killed on April 19, 1775. This unfortunate omission is, doubtless, to be accounted for by his brief service (the sacrifice of life being made about mid-day) and the few miles of travel, making the demand against the Province too small to receive the attention of the bereaved family.

The same list is authority in regard to the number of men belonging to the Bedford company of militia of the Seventh Regiment, together with their time of service.

According to the sworn statements of the commanding officers of the Bedford companies, there were, from this town, engaged in that part of the opening scene of the Revolution that took place at Concord, seventy-seven men in organized command, besides undrilled citizens who joined the ranks on that morning. If, as a recent writer of Concord fight has recorded, the Provincial forces "numbered possibly three hundred and fifty men" at half-past nine o'clock, more than one-fifth of them were from Bedford. Thompson Maxwell (before mentioned) was with the minute-men of Bedford on April 19th. His journal of that date is as follows: "I again happened in Bedford with my team. I left Boston the 18th, and got to my native town that night, and put up with my brother, Wilson (who married my sister), and was Captain of the minute-men. Next morning early he had orders to march with his company to Concord. He requested me to go with him. I went, well armed, and joined in the fight. My brother, Wilson, was killed. Next day I hired a man to drive my team home." His home was at Milford (then Amherst), N. H. He later adds in his journal, "I never went home until after the Battle of Bunker Hill." It is not certain how early the news of the movement of the Regulars first reached Bedford on the night of April 18, 1775, but it is very probable that the town was warned among the first. Nathan Munroe and Benjamin Tidd, at Captain Parker's re-

quest, went up to Bedford from Lexington, some time in the evening, and, according to the sworn statement of one of them, "notified the inhabitants." The people had but little sleep that night, and were astir long before the break of day.

There is a tradition that Maxwell's familiarity with war led him to be suspicious of certain movements that he saw in Boston, and that he and Wilson were sitting, late at night, discussing the condition of affairs, when the messenger reached the house. The minute-men rallied at the tavern in the village, kept by Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., and there had some hastily-prepared refreshments. The Captain gave the following encouraging command as the company left for Concord: "It is a cold breakfast, boys, but we'll give the British a hot dinner; we'll have every dog of them before night."

It is probable that the militia rallied at the home of their captain, on the Concord road, and were at the scene of action before Captain Wilson's company reached there. On the arrival of the two companies at Concord they assisted in removing stores to places of greater safety. It is said that Cornet Page laid down his flag and went to work, and when returning to look for it "found the boys had got it and were playing soldiers with it."

The Bedford men were on the ridge when they first saw the British, but, with all the Americans, soon turned and made haste to get to the other side of the bridge.

The Bedford companies met with no loss at the bridge, and were all in the pursuit of the retreating enemy. They left the "Great Fields" at Merriam's Corner, and engaged in the attack, then hastened in the pursuit, and were in the thickest of the fight near the "Brooks' Tavern," where Captain Wilson was killed and Job Lane wounded. It is not probable that they continued in pursuit of the retreating enemy, but, with saddened hearts, returned to their homes, bearing their dead and wounded. A British soldier said of them and others: "They fought like bears, and I would as soon storm hell as fight them again." Bedford homes were full of anxiety that day. The women were engaged in preparing food and sending it on to Concord. One good lady said, "All day long the bell was ringing and guns were firing; people were dashing back and forth on horseback, and saying there had been an awful fight." She had doubtless seen the Reading and Wilmington companies and others as they passed through the town or halted to rest at Fitch's tavern.

Admitting the militia roll, taken twenty-six days after the opening scene of the war, to have been substantially that of a month earlier, it appears that all of the able bodied men of this town, between sixteen and sixty years of age, with the exception of eleven, were on duty in the organized companies at Concord, on April 19, 1775. Had this spontaneous uprising of the people been a mad craze for war they would have

rushed to Lexington; but it was rather the natural act of children hastening to the relief of a mother threatened by a common enemy.

They received no cheer from their minister. When the people were hastening to the scene of conflict, the pastor was comfortably ensconced by his fire-side, where he was found by a neighboring clergyman, who halted while on his way to Concord.

Both companies reported at Cambridge on the following day, and teams were soon on the road with supplies for the army. No Bedford men were at Lexington on the 19th. It fosters a sort of patriotic pride, that one of the daughters, Lucy Bowes, the wife of Rev. Jonas Clark, was the entertainer of Hancock and Adams. In 1776 the entire population of the town, including negroes and mulattoes, was 482. Assuming that to have been the number one year earlier, it appears that one-seventh of the entire population participated in the opening scene of the Revolution. Bedford had credit for seventy-three men, on May 1, 1775, in the regiment under command of Colonel Samuel Gerish.

The following is a letter from one of the selectmen :

"COL. GREEN,

" Sir,—I have received a few lines from you, wherein you requested me to take a list of all that are hable to Bore arms, and in compliance to your request I have taken a list of all that are betwixt sixteen and sixty, that are hable to do duty. There is eighty-eight in the list, including officers.

" Bedford, May the 15<sup>th</sup>, 1775."

January 1, 1777, the number of able-bodied men in town, from sixteen years upwards, was 131, including five negroes. In addition to the other burdens, this town had twenty-nine of the poor of Boston to support, during the siege of that city. A Board of Overseers of the Poor, separate from the selectmen, was first chosen at that time.

The Maxwell brothers were both in camp at Cambridge. Thompson went with the Bedford men to camp on the day following his experience at Concord, and there joined his company under Captain Crosby, from Milford, New Hampshire, in Colonel Reed's regiment. Hugh was senior captain in Colonel Prescott's regiment. Their experience in the Battle of Bunker Hill is told in Thompson's journal, and is to the honor of their native town :

" On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June Col. Reed was ordered to Charlestown neck. About twelve o'clock the same day a number of our officers passed us and went on to Bunker Hill. General Ward, with the rest, returned and went to Cambridge. In the evening Colonel Prescott passed with his regiment. My brother Hugh stepped out and asked Colonel Reed and myself if we would come on to the hill that night. We did so, we went to Breed's Hill. We found Colonel Putnam there, with Colonel Prescott's command.

" Colonel Prescott requested my brother Hugh to lay out the ground for the intrenchment. He did so. I set up the stakes after them. Colonel Prescott seemed to have the sole command. Colonel Reed and I returned to our command on the neck about eleven o'clock P. M. At day, in the morning, we again went to the hill, found Putnam and Prescott there. Prescott still appeared to have command; no other regiment was there but Prescott's through the night. Captain Maxwell, after day, suggested, in my hearing, to Colonel Prescott the propriety of running an intrenchment from the northeast angle of the

night's work to a rail-fence leading to Mystic River. Colonel Prescott approved and it was done. I set up the stakes after my brother. About seven o'clock I saw Colonels Prescott and Putnam in conversation; immediately after, Putnam mounted his horse and went full speed towards Cambridge. Colonel Reed ordered his men to their commands; we returned and prepared for action. At eleven o'clock we received orders from Colonel Prescott to move on. We did so.

" We formed by order of Prescott down to the rail-fence and part on the intrenchment. We got hay and wadded between the rails, after doubling the fence by post and rails from another place. We remained there during the battle."

Maxwell also gives a detailed account of the battle, which is substantially the same as given in general history, and we omit it here.

In 1776 the town took action on the question of the Colonies declaring their independence, and voted thus: "That we, the said inhabitants, will solemnly engage, with our lives and fortunes, to support them in the measure."

The town hesitated on the adoption of a Constitution and form of government, but in August, 1779, chose John Reed, Esq., as their representative, "for the sole purpose of forming a new constitution." He served in this convention, which was held in the meeting-house at Cambridge, twenty-one days. In the following May the form of government was submitted to the people and received their approval in a meeting, three times adjourned, by a vote of twenty-five to one.

The Declaration of Independence was first read to the people by the minister from the pulpit of the old meeting-house, and is spread, in bold hand-writing, on the records of the town, "There to remain as a perpetual memorial," signed James Webber, town clerk.

## CHAPTER IX.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

*Supplies for the Army—Financial Troubles—Vote for Government under the Constitution in 1780.*

IN January, 1776, the town furnished six cords of wood and two tons of English hay daily for the army at Cambridge. With each load of hay or wood went packages from the loyal homes to the absent members in camp and the sufferers in the hospitals. Two of the strong young men of the town, who fought at Concord, fell early victims of camp-fever at Cambridge (Reuben Bacon and Solomon Stearns). The town offered a liberal bounty for volunteers in 1776, and at the close of the year voted "that those who had personally done a turn in any of the Campaigns without any hire be paid the amount of an average of those hired." The committee entrusted with the duty of equalizing bounty reported in November, 1777, a bill of £1746 16s. Families of the town cherish with pride the tradition that their grandsires were led by General Washington to Boston, after the

evacuation by General Howe, and aided in the shout of joy when the British flag gave way to the thirteen gorgeous stripes of red and white.

It is impossible to make up a complete register or state the exact number of men furnished by this town during the Revolution, and equally difficult to cast up her entire public expenditures. Bedford's Province tax from 1774 to 1776 increased more than five fold.

The opening of the war made a demand for money, and in May, 1775, the Provincial Congress empowered the treasurer to borrow and gives notes of the Province as security. Soon Continental bills were issued by the General Government. These bills were readily exchanged for cash for a while, but the repeated issues of such bills by both State and nation, and no specie to redeem them, together with the darkening days of the war, caused a depreciation in their value. The British officers and those who favored the royal cause lost no opportunity to weaken the confidence of the people in the bills of credit, until it required about seventy-five pounds in paper to procure one in specie. £1 or 20s. was worth in January, 1781, only 3d. 1qr. The purchasing value of any sum during the war after January, 1777, can only be determined by referring to a table of depreciation reported once a month, agreeable to a law of the State for the settling of contracts:

January 1, 1777, \$1 in silver was rated as \$1.05 in currency; January 1, 1778, \$1 in silver was rated as \$3.28 in currency; January 1, 1779, \$1 in silver was rated as \$7.42 in currency; January 1, 1780, \$1 in silver was rated as \$29.34 in currency; January 1, 1781, \$1 in silver was rated as \$75.00 in currency.

In 1777 the town chose a committee at the March meeting to hire the soldiers that might be called for that year and empowered them to borrow money. The amount borrowed with interest was £377 3s. 3d., paid as follows:

	£	s.	d.
For the Continental soldiers' hire . . . . .	236	10	0
For the bounty to the Rhode Island men . . . . .	22	10	0
For the bounty to the men to Bennington . . . . .	48	0	0
For one man to guard the Continental stores . . . . .	6	0	0
For the thirty day men to join the Continental Army . . . . .	24	0	0
For allowance for hiring the men . . . . .	4	11	0
For fire-arms, lead and thimble for town stock . . . . .	35	12	3
	£377	3	3

The above amount was assessed and paid that year. An item appears in the records May 8, 1777, which serves to show the cost of powder: "Then renewed the Town stock of powder from Andover 72 weight at six shillings per pound £21 12s."

The town allowed for bounties, £293. It was divided as follows:

	£
1st Tour, 2 men, 2 months, to Rhode Island, May 1, 1777, no bounty voted . . . . .	
2d Tour, 8 men, 3 months, to Bennington, Aug. 21, 1777, each £15 . . . . .	120
3d Tour, 8 men, 30 days, "to take and guard the troops," Sept., 1777 (meaning Burgoyne's surrendered army), each £2 . . . . .	16
4th Tour, 5 men, 3 months, to Boston with Capt. Farmer, each £12 . . . . .	60
5th Tour, 8 men, 3 months, to Cambridge with Capt. Moore, April 1, 1778, £11 each . . . . .	88

John Reed to Rhode Island, the same rate as those with Capt.

Farmer . . . . .	9
	£293

March 23, 1778, the town reimbursed Moses Abbot for money paid for guns, £18 1s. 3d.; also Joseph Convers for the same, £18 1s. 3d.

July 29, 1778, William Page is charged with the overplus of money in collecting clothing by subscription for the Continental soldiers, £9 15s.

Careful research proves that there was scarcely a campaign during the war in which Bedford was not represented by her own citizens, and supplies of boots, shoes, blankets and clothing were continually furnished by the people, who bravely endured hardships in their homes. The soldiers, who had enlisted for three years, were paid in the depreciated currency, of which it was said, "a hat-full of the stuff would not buy our families a bushel of salt," and many saw but little inducement to re-enlist; and in 1779 the duty of filling the town's quota became a serious matter. The town added to the commissioned officers three citizens to aid them in procuring men. They were Moses Abbott, Timothy Jones and Jonas Gleason. The commissioned officers were Captain John Moore, Lieutenant Eleazer Davis and Lieutenant Christopher Page.

November, 1779, the following bounties were allowed:

	£
1st Tour, 2 men to Rhode Island, £39 each . . . . .	78
2d Tour, 2 men to Rhode Island, 48 bushels of Indian corn, each at £9 per bushel . . . . .	864
3d Tour, 3 men to North River, two of whom have £300 each . . . . .	600
The other to have £138 cash and 51 bushels of corn at £9 per bush . . . . .	587
4th Tour, 2 men to Boston, to have £22 10s. each . . . . .	45
5th Tour, 6 men to Claverick 1½ months, at £80 per month . . . . .	640
	£2814
There was added for interest . . . . .	200
Total for year . . . . .	£3014

June, 1780, the town voted to hire the men called for to fill up the Continental Army, and that the treasurer borrow money, if needed. In September the committee reported and it was voted to raise and assess £5500 immediately to pay the debt incurred.

	Bushels
1st Tour, 7 men to North River, 6 months, to have each 120 bushels of corn . . . . .	840
2d Tour, 8 men to Rhode Island, 3 months, to have each 90 bushels of corn . . . . .	720
	1560

Oct. 2, 1780, "voted that ye sum of £8175 be immediately assessed and collected to enable the committee to procure the Beef required from this town for the army" . . . . . £8175

By the resolve of December 2, 1780, Bedford was called upon to furnish eight men for three years or the war. The case now became doubly serious. The records show that previous calls for men had been met by citizens of the town, very generally; but the sight of their illy-paid neighbors returning from three years of service, and the knowledge that hostile fleets were in our ports, and hostile armies were upon our soil,

tended to dampen the most ardent patriotism. One man, Joseph Davidson, was hired by the town for \$200 in hard money. Then the town was divided into seven classes to secure the full quota.

The report of the chairman of each class, as filed in the State archives, is as follows:

"Class I. Capt. John Moore, chairman; provided a negro called Cambridge Moore (servant of the above), and agreed to give him, as a bounty, Twenty head of cattle, three years old, in case he continued in the service three years.

"Class II. Lieut. Moses Abbott, chairman; hired a negro called Caesar Prescott for the same number of cattle as the first class paid.

"Class III. Thaddeus Dean, chairman; hired one Henry Kneelon, at the same rate.

"Class IV. Capt. Christopher Page, chairman; 'this class, by reason of disappointment, have not provided a man, but are still in pursuit to provide one.'

"Class V. John Reed, Esq., chairman; hired one James Ingles and gave him as a bounty fifteen head of cattle, three years old, and nine hundred and ninety pound in paper money.

"Class VI. Mr. William Page, chairman; hired one John Williams, and gave him, as a bounty, the exchange for two hundred and fifty hard dollars in cash.

"Class VII. Dea. Stephen Davis, chairman; hired one Joseph Ross, and gave him, as a bounty, the exchange for two hundred and twenty hard dollars.

"WILLIAM MERRIAM,	CHRISTOPHER PAGE,
"WILLIAM PAGE,	SAMUEL LANE, JR.,
	"Selectmen of Bedford."

While the several committees were at work procuring men, the town voted in January, 1781,

"To choose a committee to procure the portion of beef for the army, and directed the assessors to assess such sums as were necessary to answer the demands of the General Court or their committee then, or in the future.

"Agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court of ye 16 of June, 1781, hired one man to go to Rhode Island, he was a citizen of the town, Samuel Hartwell Blood, gave him a bounty of £19 10s.

"June 30, 1781. The town sent seven men to join General Washington's army at West Point. They received £19 16s. each as a bounty . . . . . £138 12

"July 2, 1781. Town voted to raise £100 hard money, to buy beef, and on the 14th of the same month voted to raise £45 hard money, to pay the above named soldiers what they shall need before marching, and directed the assessors to make the assessments for the balance."

It is plainly seen that town-meetings and assessments occupied the time and minds of the people. In addition to the demands for the war there were the ordinary expenses. It required £3000 of the depleted currency to meet the ordinary charges in the year 1780.

The financial condition of the town became alarming when in Sept., 1781, "Voted, to borrow £40 to pay interest on town notes." The town also held notes against individuals, received by constables in discharge of the oft-repeated rates.

Jan. 22, 1782, "Voted, that ye treasurer receive money of ye delinquent constables agreeable to the depreciation scale, only excepting such sums of money as they may have collected before this time and it remaining on hand." The same course was pursued in discharging the town's debts. The selectmen were directed to assist the treasurer in casting the notes and the interest. At the same time "Voted, to raise £225 for paying notes." Constables were authorized

to discount the rates of individuals from notes held against the town, when they could no longer respond to the calls with cash. While in the midst of the financial difficulty the people manifested their integrity in dealing justly with individuals who had entered the service in the early years of the war without regard for remuneration: "Voted, John Lane, Jr., fourteen pounds in specie, for his services in the army in 1776, and Oliver Reed and Elijah Bacon the same sums for hiring men in 1777, as those had who did personal service in that campaign, \$25 each." In January, 1779, the town voted "to abate half of Job Lane's war rates in consideration of his wounds received at Concord fight." In the following year voted "to abate his poll rates for every year since the war began." In 1783 voted "to abate Ebenezer Fitch's rates for being in the service in 1775." He was a "minute-man" at Concord, April 19, 1775, and at Cambridge ten days. March, 1782, the town was divided into three classes to hire three men to serve for three years or during the war.

That this obligation was readily discharged appears from the following: Springfield, July 3, 1782. "Reed, of Mr. Moses Abbott forty-five pound as a bounty to serve three years in the Continental Army for the town of Bedford. William Grant."

Boston, May 11, 1782. Receipt from Caesar Jones for bounty of sixty pounds for similar service.

Boston, May 13, 1782. Receipt from Zephaniah Williams for same amount as paid to Jones.

It is noticeable that three negroes, relics of the days of slavery in this town, not registered as liable to do military duty, were in the army during the greater part of the war—Cambridge Moore, Caesar Prescott and Caesar Jones.

Oct. 26, 1782. Town authorized their treasurer to take up a number of grain notes and substitute notes for hard money, allowing six shillings for each bushel specified and interest for said amount from the time the grain became due.

In justice to the Revolutionary fathers of this town it is recorded that not the slightest evidence can be found of inclination to repudiate the least obligation, either legal or moral.

From the evidence at hand it appears that the men of this town suffered the greatest hardship at the battle of White Plains, New York. Moses Fitch was wounded in the shoulder, and was being aided off the field when his comrade, Sergeant Timothy Page, was killed.

Thomas Cleverly, another Bedford man, escaped, but lost everything excepting what clothing he had on.

In December following this battle, Congress vested Washington with full power to raise an army and gather provisions and to take whatever he might want for the use of the army, if the owners refused to sell. He also had power to arrest and confine persons who refused to take the Continental currency. This was

the condition of affairs when Moses Fitch was able to leave the hospital; he returned to his home disabled for life, having received for his services a portion of the currency that had but little purchasing value. He was pensioned for life.

With a population ranging from 470 to 482 engaged in agricultural pursuits, it is wonderful that the town could meet the frequent demands for men and money. Besides the regular calls there were continual demands for delicacies for the sufferers in the hospitals and comforts that could not be furnished by the regular channels of supply. To these the straitened inhabitants were continually responding. The women were busy spinning and weaving. In 1776 the town furnished twelve blankets for the army by order of the General Court of January 4, 1776. Shirts, stockings, shoes and other articles of dress for the soldiers, in addition to the quantities of beef, were supplied by the people of Bedford. The treasurer's accounts show the cost of a blanket to have been £90, but according to the scale of depreciation, \$24 in silver would have satisfied the busy housewife. In 1780 "Esq. John Reed" was allowed \$25 per day for services and expenses, twenty-one days, in forming the Constitution, but he actually realized less than one dollar per day, as one Spanish milled dollar was equal to forty-two of the old emission on April 1st, and before the close of that year was equal to seventy-four.

The \$1.00 bill, about two inches square, had on its face the Latin words "Depressa resurgit," which is, in our tongue, "The down-trodden rises."

Under the new Constitution of 1780 the vote in this town for Governor, taken on September 4th, gave the successful candidate, John Hancock, twenty-five ballots against two for James Bowdoin. "Esq. John Reed" was sent to the General Court in 1783 and granted five shillings per day for his services while he attended the court. The town chose a committee to give him instructions in relation to the return of absentees and conspirators.

To be eligible to the office of representative at this time, one must be an inhabitant of the town and be seized of a freehold of the value of £100 in the town or any estate to the value of £200. The representative was chosen in the month of May, ten days at least before the last Wednesday. The members of the Executive Department were chosen on the first Monday of April, and inducted into office on the last Wednesday of May following.

## CHAPTER X.

### MILITARY HISTORY.

*Shays' Rebellion and Subsequent Troubles—Civil War—Bedford's Honored Dead.*

BEDFORD was reluctant in voting to adopt the Constitution, but having done it, she was true to its

provisions. In the County Convention at Concord, August 23, 1786, "to consult on matters of public grievance, under which the people labor," John Merriam and Timothy Jones represented the town. They were active in all measures adopted to quiet the minds of the people who attempted to oppose the government. Captain Christopher Page headed a large company of militia in Shays' Rebellion, and in the following year the town voted "to pay each man who went to Concord and Stow to join General Lincoln six shillings per day."

Foreign troubles and the war with the Western Indians were occasions for calls for soldiers by the General Government, and the town voted on August 28, 1794, "to give each soldier that shall voluntarily enlist the sum of eighteen shillings as a bounty, and to make them up \$8.00 per month, including the state pay, in case they are called upon to march, and for the time they are in actual service." The soldiers that enlisted were Moses Abbott, Jr., John Reed, Jr., Eleazer Davis, Jr., John Merriam, Jr., Job Webber, Asa Webber, William J. Lawrence and William Kemp.

In 1798 troubles with the French aroused the people in this town as elsewhere. Many leading citizens adopted and wore the constitutional badge of attachment to the Government. The town voted on November 5th "that the Selectman be directed to show out to the officers from the town stock as much powder and ball and as many flints as the law requires for each soldier of said company on their inspection days, and also that the selectmen be directed to furnish each soldier on muster days with sixteen cartridges out of said town stock." The alarm of war with Great Britain in 1807 was an occasion for action, and the town voted "to make up to the soldiers that may voluntarily turn out in defence of our country, \$14.00 per month as wages, if called into active service, and to give the men, ordered to be discharged from Captain Lane's Company, if they should voluntarily turn out, \$3.00 per man, as an encouragement to the same, whether they march or not."

December 27th the town "granted to Captain Lane's soldiers who should enlist in the defence of our country for the term of six months \$13 per month as wages during the time they are in actual service."

The 1812 or Madison's war, was a time of anxiety and increased military duty. The order came for the Bedford company to march at once for the defence of Boston; a night was passed in the preparation, women cooked, while men and boys made cartridges. It was on a beautiful Sabbath morning of September that the fife and drum summoned the militia together at the old meeting-house, Captain David Reed in command. With saddened hearts the entire people assembled for a brief religious service. After words of exhortation and earnest prayer from the patriotic pastor, came the partings and the march.

The last person who lingered outside the meeting-

house, and watched with tearful eyes the departing troops, was the venerable deacon, who, still suffering from the wounds received in the Revolution, felt most keenly the parting from his son. It required but a few days to prove that the call had been a mistaken one, and the company were gladly received to their homes.

In 1815 the Commonwealth reimbursed the town "for rations furnished the militia when called to Boston."

Bedford saw but little of military life for nearly a half-century after General Jackson's victory at New Orleans.

The militia observed the spring "training," when officers were elected and the fall preparations for muster.

The full company of the town was in attendance at the reception tendered Marquis de Lafayette, in 1825, when the corner-stone of Bunker Hill monument was laid. For some years the military duties were but little more than a dull routine, unless enlivened by a sham fight, ending in a representation of the surrender by Lord Cornwallis to Washington. The town had no organized company after 1833. The sentiment of the town was with the Government in regard to the Mexican trouble. In March, 1847, resolutions were adopted and placed upon the records of the town. They begin as follows:

"Resolved,—That we approve of the course our government has pursued in prosecuting the war with Mexico for the attainment of negotiations for an honorable peace."

The years that followed the Mexican trouble furnished important subjects for debate, and the citizens of this town organized a lyceum, where perfect freedom of speech was enjoyed. The Fugitive Slave Law, the Kansas and Nebraska Bill and many kindred themes were earnestly discussed. The people heartily indorsed the acts of Charles Sumner, Henry Wilson and other unflinching defenders of the cause of freedom. The brutal attack of Preston Brooks upon Charles Sumner in the Senate Chamber, at Washington, was felt by the citizens of this town as a personal insult. A legal meeting of the voters was immediately called and resolutions adopted and placed upon the records.

The people carried out their bold sentiments in their public and private acts. The advocate of freedom for the slave always secured a hearing, and the homes of leading citizens were open to those who, early or later, espoused the cause of the bondmen. In the fall of 1860, when the two political parties, "Democrat" and "Republican," were sub-divided into four, this town gave her support to the Republican, and gave a large per cent. of her votes for Abraham Lincoln.

In the months that followed, during which the "Southern Confederacy" was formed, there was a feeling of deep interest in this small town bordering upon excitement.

The attack upon Fort Sumter, April 12, 1861, opened the War of the Rebellion and aroused a generation that had never felt the devastations of war or learned the evolution of troops. The young men of Bedford, true to their ancestral record, began to enlist, and eleven had entered the Union Army before the close of the year. Among them was Cyrus Page, then sixty years of age, and still bearing the honorary title of captain, conferred upon him by the old militia company of the town.

But fifteen days after the outrage upon Sumter, a "Liberty Pole" was erected upon the "Common" or "Training-Field." Oliver W. Lane, a descendant of the Lanes of Indian and Revolutionary fame, contributed the most towering pine of his forest; every artisan and workman joined in the rally on April 27th, and raised the pole, from which the flag of the Union was unfurled and waved daily during the years of bloody conflict, now raising the spirits of the people as it waved from its highest point, and anon hushing them to silence, as, from half-mast, it betokened a nation's sorrow.

On June 27th, 1861, two months after the unfurling of the flag, and directly beneath its folds, occurred the first loss of life in Bedford, indirectly caused by the war. The alarm had led to a very general practice of firearms, and a young man injudiciously discharged his pistol across the Common and killed a bright boy of nine years, Samuel T. Hughes. The first recorded action on the part of the town was a vote instructing the selectmen to draw from the treasury, according to their discretion, for the support of the families of volunteers and a tender of the free use of the town hall "to the Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society to hold their meetings to render aid to the sick and wounded soldiers of our army."

This society did most valuable service through the war, continually contributing through the various Christian and Sanitary Commissions. Some of the women gave personal service as nurses in the camp. In August, 1862, a bounty of \$100 was voted to each volunteer for nine months' service. In 1864 the town raised \$624 to fill her quota. The sums raised by a vote of the town indicate but a fractional part of the money expended by her citizens in the cause. Not less than \$5000 were contributed to the war by the town in addition to the long-continued drain by taxation. Besides the direct tax, there was the indirect or "Internal Revenue," which demanded, and vigilant officers collected rates upon almost every transaction. After the war closed, the Ladies' Aid Society turned its attention to procuring funds for the erection of a monument to the memory of those who had died in the struggle.

About \$1600 were earned and contributed for that purpose with which a suitable Scotch granite monument has been erected in Shawshine Cemetery. The inscriptions are as follows:

"Soldiers' Memorial, 1861-65. They gave their lives for us and their

country. The Ladies of Bedford pay this affectionate Tribute to their memory.

"Albert L. Butler, died 1862; Charles W. Goodwin, died 1862; Clark C. Cutler, died 1862; Henry Hosmer, died 1862; Thomas Isaac, died 1863; James Munroe, died 1863; Samuel W. Stearns, died 1863; Joshua Atwood, died 1864; John Byron, died 1864; Charles Condry, died 1864; William F. Gregg, died 1864; Warren G. Holbrook, died 1864; Charles W. Lunt, died 1864; Charles A. Saunders, died 1864.

Memorial day is sacredly observed on each annual return, and the rapidly increasing list of graves of those who served their country in the war receives the attention of a grateful people.

At the memorial service of 1887, immediately following the death of Captain Cyrus Page, the following hymn was sung. It was composed for the occasion by Abram E. Brown, and "dedicated to the Memory of Captain Cyrus Page and other Brave men who honored Bedford in the war of the Rebellion:"

"All honor to our soldiers brave,  
Who left their home and kindred dear,  
Who nobly fought this land to save,  
Of the oppressors' rod to clear.

"Their wounds we'll deck with flowerets bright;  
Their noble deeds to children tell;  
Through passing years and ages' flight  
A country's pride their praise shall swell.

"The earthly file is narrowing fast,  
The ranks of Heaven are gaining there.  
Let's halt, and down our garlands cast,  
While for the living raise a prayer.

"In Thee, O God, we're trusting still,  
Our fathers' God, Thou too hast been,  
With joy we'll own Thy sovereign will,  
And following Thee, life's battle win."

There were enrolled as liable to do military duty in 1861, eighty names, and in 1862 the enrollment list reached eighty-seven.

In the army roll ninety names are registered to the credit of Bedford. Seventy-four of them were citizens of the town. Six were in the service of the navy.

## CHAPTER XI.

*Financial Troubles—Old Tenor and Lawful Money—Slavery in Bedford—Bill of Sale of a Negro Boy in 1776.*

BEDFORD was incorporated at the time when the currency of the Province was in a very uncertain condition. The General Court had been issuing paper money without an adequate provision to retain its nominal value; hence specie was growing scarce and the "Bills of Credit" were continually depreciating; but as these bills were almost the only medium of exchange, the people clamored for more and the majority of the Legislature seemed ready to gratify them despite the opposition of the Royal Governor, which, in 1740, occasioned a severe quarrel. Each new issue of "Bills of Credit" caused a decline in the value of the currency. In 1730 they had sunk more than

half below their nominal value and the depreciation continued until 1750. The fluctuation in the value of this currency was a source of general embarrassment, and contracts involving annual salaries were fulfilled with difficulty by the most scrupulous.

In agreeing with Rev. Nicholas Bowes, the first minister, the town voted "that our money shall be in proportion as it is now in valiacon, rising, fallin." The value at that time was eighteen shillings per ounce. The decline was so great that in 1749, the last year of the "Old Tenor" bills, the town voted to give Rev. Mr. Bowes £240 in place of £100, but he returned £20 for the use of the schools. In 1750 voted to give him "£50 13s. 4d. Lawful money."

The expectation of having the "Bills" exchanged for specie led many to hoard them, and it became difficult for the collector of taxes to get the dues of the Province, and the time for settling demands was necessarily extended. The following rhyme gives an idea of the change that was anticipated:

"And now Old Tenor, fare you well,  
No more such tattered rags we'll tell,  
New dollars pass and are made free;  
It is a year of jubilee.  
Let us therefore good husbands be,  
And good old times we soon shall see."

The town paid for their minister's wood in 1749 35s. per cord "Old Tenor," and in the following year the price paid per cord was 4s. "Lawful money."

In 1749 the people worked out their highway "Rates," and were allowed during three summer months 14s. each man per day, and in the other months 8s. per day; a yoke of oxen with cart 8s. per day, "Old Tenor." In 1750 the allowance in "Lawful money" for a man was 2s. per day until the last of September, and in the rest of the year 1s. per day. For oxen and cart the allowance was 1s. 4d. per day. The scarcity of money was felt by the people possessed of property as well as others, and trade was carried on largely by barter. In the list of tax-payers reported in arrears in March, 1753, the names of leading citizens are found. By a law of the General Court the bills of credit were redeemed at a rate that was about one-fifth less than their lowest current value—that is at fifty shillings for an ounce of silver, which was valued at 6s. 8d., or an English crown.

Here originated the "Old Tenor" reckoning. March 31, 1750, marked the era of "Lawful money," after which date all debts were contracted on the specie basis of 6s. 8d. per ounce of silver and three ounces of silver were equal to £1.

With the currency restored to a metallic basis and to a uniform value the people were free from all such trouble for more than twenty years. The fluctuating state of the currency, dwelt upon at length in the military section, made it difficult to adjust the ministerial rates in the years of the Revolution as it was in the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Bowes. In May, 1778, the town added to Rev. Mr. Penniman's salary, for the



year ensuing, £66 13s. 4d. and reimbursed him for bad money paid to him by the collector, principal and interest amounting to £9 10s. In 1780, "on account of the decline in currency, the town gave him fifty bushels of Rye and fifty bushels of Indian Corn, to be delivered in January, 1781." In 1791 the selectmen were authorized to sell the Continental money at their discretion and the treasury was relieved of its burdensome paper for a nominal sum. £1032 9s. 6d. "old tenor" sold for £2 3d. 2f. A similar difficulty was encountered in the pastorate of Rev. Samuel Stearns. The town gave him a choice at first of \$333.33 $\frac{1}{3}$  as an annual salary or the same amount in beef, pork, rye and Indian corn, but past experience led some of the people to object to an indefinite salary and Mr. Stearns accepted of the definite sum; his letter of acceptance was accompanied with the following: "Resting assured that the town will not willingly see me suffer by reason of the depreciation of the currency hereafter." Through the depreciation that soon followed, Mr. Stearns was obliged to sell land and went in debt for about five hundred dollars before he appealed to the town.

November 16, 1801, the town voted to lend him one thousand dollars, without interest, so long as he should supply the desk. In 1808 the town voted "to add the sum of three hundred dollars to his salary in semi-annual payments of fifty dollars each." They also added two cords of wood to his annual portion. This was both just and generous, and occasioned by the change in cost of supplies and the increase of the pastor's family. A fragmentary journal kept by Rev. Samuel Stearns in the first year of his ministry in Bedford shows one hundred and twenty-eight donations of family supplies during eight months. This shows how the minister was able to bring up and educate his large family.

Slavery existed in Bedford, as elsewhere, though not attended with the evils that accompanied the inhuman system in many parts of the country. The atmosphere of New England, especially of Massachusetts, was not favorable to its growth. Long before the spirit of liberty manifested itself in resistance to the mother country, and long before the adoption of the Constitution of 1780, individuals of Bedford had freed their slaves, who in the main were held as family servants, but were regarded as property, and in some families bought and sold like cattle. The extreme caution taken by towns in general, and this in particular, to prevent the settlement of paupers, obliged a person who desired to free his slaves, to give bonds that the freed persons should not become public charges. This requirement, no doubt, deterred some from giving freedom to their slaves, who were fully conscious of the injustice. "March y<sup>e</sup> 23, 1761, Col. John Lane gave a bond to Stephen Davis, Town Treasurer, to save and indemnify the town of Bedford from any charge that may arise by reason of his negro man being set free." Colonel Lane was assessed in that year

for his "negro man's minister's rate, 2<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>." A citizen of Bedford has the original, of which the following is a copy:

"To Mr. Harrison Gray, treasurer for the province of the Massachusetts bay, sir, be pleased to give Mr. Moses Abbott, the bearer hereof, all the wages that is due to me for my negroman, torrey more, being in the county service in the year 1757, under capt. peaser till he got to the casel, and then went to Crown point under Capt. clingesh, or gave me an order to Mr. Moses abbott, constable of bedford, and this receipt shall be your discharge, and you will oblige your humble servant,

"JOHN LANE."

It is evident that slaves had been kept in the Lane family, as well as in others, from their earliest settlement in this territory, and that Torrey was a family name for the colored race in their possession, as appears from the following copy of the original:

"This may certify to all persons that I, Mary Lynden, of Boston, do sell all my right in a boy called Torrey, to John Lane, given to me according to a county court record 1676.

MARY LYNDEN."

The following is copied from the original bill now filed in the town:

"Nathaniel Tay sold his negro to Mr. John Page for twenty pound in money and six pound in bill.

NATHANIEL TAY, 1691."

In 1764, Captain James Lane gave a bond freeing his slave. The records furnish other instances of slaves being set free by the voluntary action of the citizens of this town. Although treated as property, the colored people were permitted to enjoy many privileges with their masters. They had seats assigned them in the meeting-house. The rite of baptism was administered, and they were admitted to full membership in the church, upon "owning the covenant." The church records furnish proof like the following:

"Baptized, Ishmael, a negro (adult), July ye 4<sup>th</sup>, 1736." "Baptized, quimbo, a negro man who confessed, etc., July ye 30, 1751." "Baptized, Torrey, a negro man, January ye 14, 1751-52." "Baptized, Abraham, son of Jack, negro, Nov. ye 11, 1753." "Admitted into full communion, Hannah Drury, wife of Zebadiah Drury and Lois Bardo (a negro), Sept. ye 5<sup>th</sup>, 1742."

The register of deaths kept by Rev. Mr. Bowes has entries as follows, which suggest ownership:

"Nov. ye 2, 1737, Cuff, a negro child belonging to Mr. Zachens Whitney." "Aug. 3, 1749, Domiro, a negro boy, who belonged to Mr. John Lane."

There is evidence that slaves were retained by some families until 1780, when the Constitution adopted by the State declared in Article I, "All men are born free and equal, and have certain natural, essential and inalienable rights," etc. When the articles of the Constitution were acted upon by the town, there were three opposing votes to Article I, and the military records show that three slaves were serving in the army, while by the treasurer's returns of those years it is seen that Captain Moore collected bounty and pay for services of Cambridge (a negro man). Other similar records are found.

There is no evidence that any of the slaves of this town were permitted to accompany their masters to Concord on April 19, 1775, or that they were then enrolled as liable to do military duty; but when it be-

came apparent that war had really begun, and calls for men followed each other in rapid succession, the slaves were pressed into the service. Cambridge Moore, Caesar Prescott and Caesar Jones were early recorded as doing military duty, to the credit of their masters. When one campaign or tour was over, they were put into another, and so continued in the service until 1780. In December of that year they entered the army as free men, and received bounty and pay like their white neighbors. May 11, 1782, Caesar Jones signed, by "his X mark," a receipt for "sixty pound, E. money, as a bounty, to serve in the Continental Army for the term of three years." "A free negro," is the note appended. The following document is treasured in the town:

"Know all men by these Presents—That I, Joseph Fitch, of Bedford, in the County of Middlesex, in the Province of the Massachusetts bay in New England, Gentleman, for and in consideration of the Sum of Twenty-Four Pounds, Lawful money of New England, to me in hand Paid and before the Sealing & Delivery of these Presents, by Joseph Hartwell, of Bedford abovesaid, Yeoman, the Receipt whereof I Do hereby acknowledge, Have bargained & Sold & by these Presents Do Bargain & Sell unto the Said Joseph Hartwell, a Negro boy about Five years old, called Jetterree, now living at the said Joseph Hartwells, to have & to hold the Said Negro boy by these presents Bargained the Sold unto the said Joseph Hartwell, his Executors & Administrators & assigns for Ever, & I, the said Joseph Fitch, for my Self, my Executors and Administrators do warrant the above S<sup>d</sup> Negro boy unto the Said Joseph Hartwell, his Executors, Administrators & Assigns, against me, and said Joseph Fitch my Executors, Administrators & Assigns, & against all & every other Person and Persons What so ever, Shall and Will warrant & Defend by these Presents of which Negro boy, I, the said Joseph Fitch, have put the S<sup>d</sup> Joseph Hartwell in full Possession by Delivering S<sup>d</sup> Negro at the Sealing hereof unto the S<sup>d</sup> Joseph Hartwell. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto Set my Hand & Seal this Sixth Day of July, Anno Domini, One thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty Six, & in the twenty-Ninth year of his majesties Reign, &c."

"Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

"HUMPHREY PIERCE,  
her  
"SARAH X PIERCE,  
mark

"JOSEPH FITCH."

It is doubtful if slaves set at liberty in advanced age, entirely inexperienced in caring for themselves, were benefited thereby. The records show that several of them became dependent upon public charity. They were treated with as much consideration by those in charge of the poor as were their white companions in misfortune. In 1820 "The Selectmen sold at vendue the wearing apparel of Dinah, a woman of color, deceased, amounting to \$7.84; also bought a Baise gown for the use of Violet, a colored pauper, for \$1.60, leaving a balance of \$6.24." Violet was the last freed slave who died in this town. She was supposed to have lived a full century, and died in 1842. John Moore, a prominent citizen of the town, had slaves of both sexes, and Violet is thought to have been the one for whom he made provision in his will in the year 1807, thus: "to daughters Mary Fitch and Lydia Bowers, the net of my personal estate, on condition that they support my negro girl in sickness and health, through life, and give her a decent burial." Violet's unusually long life may ac-

count for the violation of the provision made by her master.

The only memorial-stone bearing evidence that this race lived, served and died in Bedford was erected in Shawshine Cemetery by Josiah A. Stearns, A.M., in memory of Peter, an honored family servant, who was buried in the "African reservation" in the old burial ground.

## CHAPTER XII.

### *Public Charity, How Dispensed - Town Farm for Poor.*

GREAT caution was used to prevent people from becoming paupers in the early days; but when public support was demanded, and a settlement established, the poor were well treated. When a citizen admitted members to his family he was obliged to report to the selectmen and secure the town against their support as appears by the following:

"Bedford, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1736. I, Jacob Kendall, of Bedford, do promise and engage for me and my heirs to free and secure the town of Bedford from any charge that shall arise from the maintenance of my father and mother, Jacob and Alise Kendall, as witness my hand.

"JACOB KENDALL."

People coming into town to settle, whose record was not fully clear, and means of support perfectly evident to the selectmen, were warned out of town in a legal manner, and caution entered at the Court where a record could be consulted. Thus families were compelled to go from town to town in a most unfriendly manner. The following is the form of warning used in this town and served by the constable on the order of the selectman:

"Middlesex, S. S., to A. B., one of the constables of the town of Bedford. Greeting:

"In His Majesty's name you are hereby required to warn D. E. and family that they forthwith depart this town, the selectmen refusing to admit them as Inhabitants. You are also to inquire from whence they last came, and what time they came to this town, and make return hereof under your hand with your doings therein, unto the selectmen or to the town clerk. Dated at B. the — day of —, Anno Domini. In the year of His Majesty's Reign.

"Per order of the Selectmen,

"G. H., Town Clerk."

The records prove that parties were often warned from the town. "Seth Putnam and his family warned out of town and caution entered at March Court, on ye second Tuesday of March, An: Dom: 1748-9."

A warning cannot be considered as unquestionable evidence against a family; for we find the record of warning against parties that appear in subsequent records as occupying places of trust in the community. Young ladies were legally warned out of town who became, in subsequent years, wives of leading men.

That the selectmen were faithful in complying with the law is apparent by the following record: "Feb. 9,

1767—Mr. Thomas Page, who had received Dr. Ballard into his family, as a boarder, in March or April last, and never had informed thereof, being then present before the selectmen, it was proposed to him, by the selectmen, whether the Dr. Joseph should be warned out of town; and he, not desiring the same, the selectmen therefore agreed not to caution against the Dr. Joseph, nor yet to admit him as an inhabitant." Dr. Ballard was the second physician of the town, coming from Lancaster. He became a valuable citizen; was a delegate to the Provincial Congress, in Concord, 1771, and was a distinguished man. He died Jan. 23, 1777.

In the list of orders drawn upon the treasury it appears that the constables were liberally paid for "Entering Cautions;" one charge was seventeen shillings. In 1737 the town had its first lawsuit. It was with the town of Concord, over the support of a family by the name of Ross. Bedford lost the case, but a feeling of unjust dealing appears, from a record made later, when a committee was chosen "to attend to the witnesses who appeared against the town in the suit before the Superior Court." How Ross got a settlement in Bedford is not clear. The Lexington records show that he was warned from that town. The original of the constable's return is evidence that Bedford did not fail in trying to locate him in Concord:

"Middlesex, S. S., Concord, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1737." In obedience to this warrant, I have conveyed ye within named Daniel Rose and his wife unto the said town of Concord, & delivered them to one of ye constables of sd. town and at ye same time delivered him a copy of ye within written warrant.

"EUREAM PAVES,

"Constable of Bedford."

The inhumanity of such dealing with a man at the age of ninety years can but arouse the indignation of a reader at this day.

That the town furnished more than the necessities of life for this family appears from the treasurer's report of 1742. "For keeping of Ross £21 3s. 0d. For tobaka for Ross 15s." and another charge in the same year "For tobaka for Ross 8s. and for a jacket £1." Rev. Mr. Bowes' register of deaths shows that Daniel Ross died "Oct. ye 27, 1748, aged 100 yrs." leading to the conclusion that the appetite, so generously gratified by the town, may have been acquired of the Indians long before the struggle with King Philip. For some years the care of the poor was let out annually by "public vendue," the contract being closed with the lowest bidder. As late as 1804 we find the following action: "Doreas Bacon put to board with Simeon Stearns, until next March meeting, at sixteen cents per week, they to get what service from her they could." At length this plan gave rise to dissatisfaction, in that the worthy poor were liable to fall to the charge of irresponsible parties, and the duty of assigning homes for the paupers was referred to the selectmen with discretionary power. In 1823 a written contract was made with Thomas Page for the support of the poor, and bonds were required to the

amount of \$300. Some of the specifications of the contract are as follows:

"With regard to their diet, they are to be provided with a sufficiency of good and wholesome food, with tea or coffee twice in each day, if they choose, with sweetening; cleanly and comfortable lodgings, seasonable medical aid in case of sickness, and other things to make them comfortable as their condition may require."

Paupers were boarded by other towns in Bedford families. In 1741 twenty of such are recorded here, some of whom were from New Hampshire. The long distance from their place of settlement made it possible for great injustice to be done them by those who promised faithful care. In the early years of the town's history the needs of paupers were discussed in open town-meeting, and a detailed report made by the treasurer of each bill of charge for their relief.

The records show that the needs of a poor widow were annually discussed in town-meeting, for many years, without the slightest regard for her feelings. Further on the charge appears, "for Coffin, grave & gloves £1 5s., and a credit for the sale of her property at Vendue £2 13s. 4d."

The treasurer's account of 1802 has the following charge to the town: "Paid John Page for making a coffin for ——— child and fetching the corps, \$2.25."

In 1833 the town voted to buy a "poor farm and stock it." This being done, the care of the farm and support of the poor was placed in the hands of a board of overseers, who at the town's expense, employ a superintendent and matron, and public charity is dispensed according to the most approved plans. By a vote of the town, a simple stone, suitably inscribed, is placed at the grave of each pauper, thus preventing the increase of unknown graves in the burial-grounds.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

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### BURIAL-GROUNDS.

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A BURIAL-GROUND was indispensable to a well-regulated town, and the incorporators of Bedford hastened to assign a piece of ground convenient to the meeting-house for that use. October 23, 1729, "The selectmen met and laid out a burying-place in the land that Mr. Israel Putnam gave to the town." Later they changed the location a little, making mention of "a bridal way that leads from the road that runs from the meeting-house to Woburn." In 1731 the town voted "to release John Mansfield's rates if he will keep the brush down in the burying-place." Thus the citizens early manifested a regard for this sacred spot. Having a central location, it has

never been allowed to show signs of neglect that are too often noticed in towns of New England. For one hundred and eighteen years this was the only place of interment in town. The most careful estimate, aided by authentic records, leads to the conclusion that not less than fourteen hundred bodies have been returned to their kindred dust within that enclosure. The town set apart a corner for the burial of the African race, and there in the "African reservation," in unmarked graves, are Cuff, Dinah, Violet, Jack, Ishmael, Quinbo, Toney, Abraham, Domire, Pomp, Cesar, Cambridge and others. In 1810 the town erected a house for keeping the hearse. It was in the southwest corner of the yard. The expense was \$48.50. The contractor agreed to prepare the ground and underpinning, in addition to erecting the house, which, according to specifications, was "to be built with good material and painted twice over." Here were safely kept the hearse, bier and pall. The old, cracked bell was stored here for a while, and here was stored the town's stock of powder and other military equipments, all of which were associated with death or a state of uselessness. The absence of a record of consecration leads one to the conclusion that the incorporators of this town, like the earlier generations of settlers in New England, neither consecrated their burying-ground nor dedicated their meeting-house by special religious service.

The only family reservations in the burial-ground were such as were secured through neighborly courtesy. The ground was extended according to the growing needs of the community. In 1795 John Reed and John Merriam were granted the privilege of erecting a family tomb; and in 1824 Capt. Robert Pulsifer built one adjoining it. In 1824 a private enterprise resulted in the erection of thirteen tombs, on land adjoining the public ground. These became the sepulchres of the leading families, and delayed the necessity of selecting a new place of burial for some years. In 1835 the first steps were taken towards ornamenting the grounds. The town appropriated the sum of fifty dollars, and trees were planted on the borders of the yard. In the early years of the observance of "Arbor Day" a large number of trees were planted and special care given to the ground then abandoned for the purpose of interments. The advance from the austerity of the Pilgrims, progress in art and improvement in the financial standing of the sturdy yeomen is in no way more evident than in the memorials erected and attention given to the place of burial. The grim "death-head" gave place to the "willow and urn." In 1837 the first white marble slab was erected in the yard. So conspicuous was it, in the midst of scores of primitive slate stones, that it was an object of general comment.

The tombs built for permanence became so unsightly through the crumbling of the exposed masonry that they were rebuilt in 1887.

In 1849 the town laid out a new burial-place, about a mile east of the village. It is the western slope of a commanding hill-side, which terminates in the valley of the Shawshine River.

Shawshine ("Shawsheen") Cemetery is of itself a fitting memorial of the perseverance and sacrifice of those who started the enterprise, all of whom now sleep without its borders. Both nature and art have contributed lavishly in making this cemetery an attractive spot. Burial lots are owned by individuals, subject to wise restrictions, and permanent care is insured by a deposit of funds with the town, agreeable to a statute of the Commonwealth. In 1852 John Merriam gave the town \$100 to aid in fitting up the grounds.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

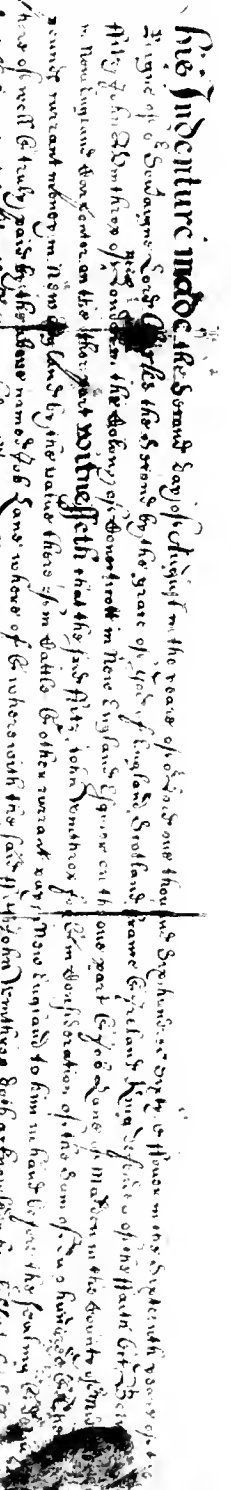
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### *Highways—Bridges and Railroads.*

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THE territory set off as Bedford in 1729 was inhabited by a good number of families who had established homes, but it was traversed by few public roads. The settlers had located their homes on the southern slopes and where they would be the least liable to attacks from the Indians. Neighborly intercourse was carried on by the shortest cuts through comparatively worthless fields, and by the same winding paths the scattered families reached the "country road." The principal roads from town to town were called country roads, and were the only highways that received public care. The ways for local convenience were designated as "Trodden Paths," and were obstructed by gates and bars. The road from Billerica to Concord was laid out "19 12<sup>mo</sup>, 1660." The description of that portion of the road which was within the present limits of Bedford and on to Concord Centre, is as follows: "from ye entrance of Mr. Dudley's farme, until you come to Concord great swamp, it shall lye at least six pole wide; and from ye great swamp to Concord towne. Centre trees are marked aboute ye old road untill you come to the south corner of the widow foxes land; then leaving the old dirty road on the right hand, and passing through an opening of the swamp, acording vnto trees marked in ye center of it, we continued to cranfield gate, and from thence, keeping the common road, to ye meeting-house."

If one would follow the road through Bedford at present, he should start at Herrick's corner and continue in the present highway to Proctor's corner and so on over the causeway road to the vicinity of the Sampson estate, entering the present highway east of the dwelling-house and so on in a southwesterly direction to the Henry Wood estate, and then continuing to the "Virginia road," which was doubtless



Ernest and Carl of Chicago in the rear of the same.

1860

10



the road first laid from Cambridge to Concord, and over which the pioneers of Concord brought their families and goods. The "Loop" by Josiah Davis is given by some authorities as the section of the Billerica and Concord "Country" road, but local records do not support such opinions. It is evident that a road from Billerica to Concord was marked out some years later which crossed the higher land, very probably west of the present North Avenue. "September 9, 1713, the selectmen made bounds to the highway leading from Billerica to Concord, beginning at James Lane's" (Coolidge's), "and meeting the present highway at Joseph Fitches" (Wilkins' Hill). This way must have gone below Farrell's and past the mill site in Captain Lane's land.

A road from Billerica to Cambridge (Lexington) known as the road to Bacon's Mill, or Fitches' Mill, is first mentioned, "16:1:63"—"Will Tay & George Farley are Appoynted to Lay out a highway from the Towne, leading to Mr. Michell's fame, on y<sup>e</sup> South East end of Mr. Winthrop's great meadow, to be layed out four polls wide." The condition of these early roads for many years is shown by an action of the town of Billerica, mentioned nineteen years later:

"27<sup>th</sup> 1m, 82. Whereas Mr. Muzey makes a complaint for want of ye knowledge of ye highway from his farm, that hee bought of Timothy Brooks, to the town." (Brooks had a part of the Oakes grant now the Page estate). "The selectmen do order George Farley, that was one of the committee that laid it out at ye first, & comp<sup>ly</sup> in French, forthwith to go and renew ye markes if y<sup>e</sup> said way, that it may be obvious to all travellers; also to draw up a record as distinct that may bee, how it lyes that so it may be found afterward without much difficulty."

It is obvious that a public way was marked out from Billerica to Wilson's Mill (Staples') about as early as to Bacon's Mill, as it was "made passable" in 1683, and quite probable that it followed the present discontinued highway from Frost's by Hunnewell's. In April, 1694, a committee was directed "to lay out sufficient highway from Mr. Michael's farm, through Mrs. Page's land to Shawshin River; and over Shawshin River unto Lt. John Wilson's Mill to Cambridge line; and from the same road to lay out a sufficient highway through Mrs. Page's land unto the land of Patrick Fasset, unto the house of Patrick Fasset, and from thence to state the highway in the most convenient place from Patrick Fasset's house leading up to Concord Road, and from there to Mr. Laines." This road may, doubtless, be traced at present over the hill by Wilson's house (Ladd's) to the Cummings road, which led eastward to Woburn, and westerly by the present highway, by the cemetery, crossing the Lexington road at Fitches' corner, by Patrick Fasset's (William Page place), following the old road to Nathaniel Merriam's (Mudge's), and on to McGovern's, and over the discontinued road to the "Virginia" road to Concord. If "the road to Mr. Lane's" is understood as beginning at Fasset's, it may be indicated by the present highway from Mudge's to

the village; but if from "Concord road" to Mr. Lane's, it is the present highway from the Hartwell place to the village, which the town in 1734 tried to make William Hartwell "easy about." There was a road farther south from the Concord road towards Cambridge. It doubtless branched off at Proctor's corner, before mentioned, passed Samuel Huckins' estate, and over Pine Hill by the Brown estate to the Page dwelling, and so on by the cemetery to Fasset or William Page estate and to Lexington, then "Cambridge farms." Pine Hill road appears as a "country" road, in a deed of conveyance in 1721, proving that it was a highway before Bedford was incorporated. It is also described in 1718, in laying out a way from "Shawshine Bridge" to Concord River, near James Lane's house. A road from Concord to Woburn was undoubtedly in use before the incorporation, and followed substantially the present Main Street until it met the Billerica and Cambridge road at the Page dwelling, which it followed as far as Webber's (Kenrick's) and then passed over "Cummings' Hill."

Concord and Woburn road is mentioned in a deed as going by Josiah Fasset's in 1721. Charles Wood's estate was bought by James Wright, of Fasset, which aids in the above conclusion. The "burying-place" laid out in October, 1729, was bounded on the Woburn road; three months later the location was changed "a little to the northward," giving the present location of the burial-ground. "A bridal-way is allowed to goe from the road that leads from the meeting-house to Woburn." The bridle-way or horse track referred to represents, substantially, the present Spring Street, until it reaches the "country" road at Brown's corner.

The county roads or highways thus far mentioned constitute, very probably, all of the public highways at the date of incorporation.

The meeting-house, which was nearly completed before the act of incorporation was passed, naturally became the nucleus of the village. The site had been selected as a geographical centre, for it is apparent that the dwellings were as scattering here as in other locations; there is positive evidence of only two within the present limits of the village, Deacon Israel Putnam's, and Benjamin Kidder's, which was occupied by Mansfield, after Kidder built the house now standing and owned by Miss C. M. Fitch.

The meeting-house was the centre from which the early roads of the new town radiated. September, 1730, in laying out the land about the meeting-house, "a trodden path that goes to Deacon Nathaniel Merriam's from the meeting-house" is alluded to, and "Mr. Bowes' compliment of land is laid out on the west side of the trodden path to Deacon Merriam's, next to Concord Old Line," "leaving two poles for convenience for the highway." As Deacon Merriam's is represented by the Mudge estate of to-day, it appears that the "trodden path" was the only road to

the south part of the town. The reservation of two poles "for convenience for the highway" shows the width of the road later agreed upon. In 1731 the selectmen laid out the road from the meeting-house to Stephen Davis' (John Neville's) and on to Lexington line. This is substantially the present traveled highway from the village by the Mudge place to John Neville's where it may be traced in front (south) of the house, across the fields by a deserted cellar to Lexington line. The present traveled road from Neville's to Lexington is a more modern way. The front entrance of the house, when built, was convenient to the road as then traveled.

At the same meeting a road was laid out from the meeting-house to John Stearns' land. This may be the road which, at first, passed north of the present Main Street, in the rear of the Fitch dwelling, and connected with the "country" road after going northward to the present estate of Edward Butters.

A road was at once laid out from Kidder's (Miss C. M. Fitch's) to Joseph Fitch's (Wilkins' place), "and over to Cedar Swamp to the land of Davis & Taylor, to Concord River meadow path." This at once suggests the present highway from Wilkins' Hill to the Sampson place.

In the same year, 1731, a highway, two poles wide, was laid out from the meeting-house to Lexington, which may be the present road by the Hosmer and Muzzy estate, over the causeway a few rods when it branched off to the south and passed the Mead's place to Lexington. In the descriptive record of this road, a causeway from Woolley's to Hartwell's, twenty-five feet wide, is mentioned, over which the road passed for a short distance. All the remaining road was two poles wide.

In 1734 the road from Benjamin Kidder's (Miss Fitch's) to Ensign James Lane's (Cooledge) was laid out, and later, relieved of its curves, became the present North Avenue.

In 1738 the road passing in the rear of Kidder's dwelling was exchanged for the present street, passing south of the dwelling. It was widened at that time, and is the present Main Street from the Common to Wilson Park.

March 4, 1734, "Town accepted the way that the selectmen layed out from south side of Oakes' farm to Kidder's land, so on to Deacon Israel Putnam's land by the burying-place, and gave him (Putnam), in exchange for it, the Rangeway on the easterly side of his land." We here see, with slight alterations, the road from the springs to Main Street. In 1733-34 a road was laid out which corresponds with the present Concord road across the causeway (McGovern's).

From the descriptions thus far made, it appears that within the first decade of the town's corporate history highways were laid out to each quarter of the town, but this does not imply that they were in condition for travel; on the contrary, these acts had been little more than official indications of prospective highways.

In almost every case the owners of the land were allowed gates or bars; in some, however, the time for such accommodation was limited. It may be inferred by this that fences were to be built to divide possessions within a specified time.

The unimproved condition of the roads made it easy to change locations, as it seemed wise to do, after more mature consideration. Several decided changes were made during the first ten years, and some roads, of which there is record, are entirely lost.

September 18, 1732, the first highway rate was allowed (£50), and Cornet Nathaniel Page was the first highway surveyor, and in each succeeding year similar sums were appropriated for the roads, but the roads were improved slowly, as more than a score of miles had been laid out already.

The new town was favorably situated as regarded the building of bridges. The expense of preparing ways across the streams was very small for a good many years. In 1736 the bridge near the Kenrick place is referred to as the "great bridge on the road to Lexington."

The Hill's bridge "Episode," in which Billerica's first and perhaps only mob is seen, caused this town not a little anxiety, and in 1734 "Town voted that the way of Hill's Bridge is not a public good and benefit."

Perhaps the people of this town thereby escaped being forced to contribute to the building of the bridge and road which the Court ordered to be done.

In 1747 the selectmen laid out a road leading from Joseph Fitch's house southerly, by the cedar swamp to the Concord and Billerica road. It passed through "Hastings' improvement," where he was allowed "to have gates or bars for a period of four years and no more." The road was over a trodden path before-mentioned. The name suggests the means of conveyance of that time; the better roads were passable for carts, but very many of them could be traveled only on horse-back or on foot. Wagons were unknown, and the "one-horse chaise," which first appeared about 1800, was a luxury only enjoyed by the minister and a few wealthy citizens. A special tax was levied on a chaise, and the aristocratic owner erected a house for its safe keeping.

The system of supporting highways, which continued until the recent method of appointing a commissioner to direct the whole business, was early in practice here. A separate highway rate was assessed and men were allowed to work out their shares, but only on legal highways without a special vote of the town. In 1745 "Col. John Lane is allowed to work out his rate on the way between his house and the Country Road." In 1748 the wages allowed were established by vote in town-meeting: "In the three summer months fourteen shillings each man per day, in the month of September Eleven shillings per day." No one was allowed full pay unless he was sixteen years of age.

In 1748 a road was laid out by the Court's committee through land of William Reed and Timothy



Hartwell. It was the extension from the present Loomis estate to connect with the Billerica and Cambridge road at the present cemetery gate. Eleazer Davis (2d) lost his life in building this piece of road in September, 1748.

From 1750 to 1790 but few new roads were called for—those already laid out were gradually improved—gates and bars were discontinued and an occasional bridle-way was opened to the public travel and care.

About 1790 citizens of the District of Carlisle began to take steps to bridge Concord River. A letter from them, dated December 9, 1790, was discussed by the voters of this town and the subject-matter referred to a committee.

Before that committee was ready to report, a petition had been entered at the Court of General Sessions by the people of Carlisle and a meeting of the citizens of Bedford was held in December, 1791, when steps were taken to ascertain the best way to reach Concord River from the village. In the following February the committee reported that they had made surveys as follows: "From 16 mile-stone, near J. Fitches' to Brother Rocks, by Samuel Lane's (Huckins') two miles and one-half; From said mile-stone through the swamp by Job Lane's house (Farrell's) to the River meadow—Oak upland—one and a third miles and forty-eight rods; From said mile-stone over Zachariah Fitch's cansway (Sampson's) to the River, near Oak upland, two miles and one hundred rods." The committee chosen to consider the feasibility of the plan of bridging the river made an extended report, from which the following is taken: "To put the bridge where it is proposed by the petitioners would require the building of a road through four hundred rods of meadow, deep mirey swamp and low, flat land, and the whole of the same lying in Bedford (saving eight rods), when we have neither stone nor earth suitable within a mile,—Therefore we think it very unreasonable and imposing upon the town of Bedford for them to think for to make us their slaves for ever, as we shall be, if we should be held to maintain a highway where they propose." The committee urged the way by the "Brother Rocks," saying—"however we are willing for to help them over the River when they may stand upon good bottom, and do something for them that we trust the Court's committee will think honorable to the town." The town opposed the plan most assiduously, but the Court ordered the road to be laid out in the way most objectionable to Bedford people, and they were obliged to plunge into the swamp and build the road and help bridge the river at an expense most trying to the people in the beginning. The town was divided into eight districts, with a superintendent for each, and the work of building the road from the "bar" to the river was assigned in equal portions.

The miry nature of the ground over which the road was built has occasioned continual outlays since the construction, which, with the oft-repeated calls

for repairs upon the bridge, have led later generations to believe that the investigating committee of 1792 was endowed with prophetic wisdom. The first bridge did not last twenty-five years, and Bedford was obliged to make an outlay of five hundred dollars to replace her portion in 1823. In 1873 the old mud-sill bridge was taken away and a modern pile-bridge put in its place, at an expense to this town of nearly three thousand dollars.

The road from Bacon's (Frost's) to Gleason's mill (Staple's) was opened as a public way in 1798 and from Hosmer and Muzzy's corner to Samuel Hartwell's (McGovern's) in the same year. In 1800 the road past the present East School house first appears as a town road, and in the same year the road from Webber's (Kenrick's) to Lexington line over the hill was straightened.

At the opening of the present century a road from the main way to Oliver Reed's (C. L. Waits') was opened. The evidence of the records is that it was a town-way at times and at others it was private. Mr. Reed was allowed to work out his highway rates on this road by special vote of the town.

In 1802 the town voted "to open a road from John Sprague's and so on to Eleazer Davis', they to give the land, and fence the road, all but sixty rods, which the town should build." It was laid out two rods wide, and two years were allowed for its completion, proving that the "Loop" round by Josiah Davis' house was not a public way until 1804. Measures were being taken at the same time to have the road to Lexington straightened, which was done by order of the Court of Sessions in 1807. The cost paid by this town was \$1048.10. The straightening began at James Wright's chaise-house (Chas. Woods), and resulted in the present road over Shawshine River to Nathan Fitches' corner and direct to Lexington line.

The Middlesex Turnpike, a private enterprise, chartered in June, 1805, caused Bedford people a good deal of anxiety. A committee was chosen to protect her interests, believing the opening of such a thoroughfare would tend to draw away travel from the village and injure the town. It was located in 1806, crossing the town on its northeast border. The proprietors of the turnpike were actuated by a vain delusion that the new road built without regard for hills or ponds would attract all of the travel between New Hampshire, Vermont and Boston, notwithstanding the oft-repeated demand for "toll."

They enjoyed a measure of success for awhile, but professional teamsters were slow to abandon the familiar routes and discard the hospitality of the long established taverns in Bedford.

The opening of the Chelmsford road in 1823 was encouraged by this town, and measures were adopted to attract travel through the village, and the loss occasioned by the turnpike was more than made up to the town by the new route. Six and eight-horse teams were continually passing through the village

loaded with wool, butter, cheese and produce of the northern farms, in exchange for salt, molasses, dry goods, rum and the requisites of a "country store," and in early winter "the roads were full" of farmers' teams loaded with their own fat pigs and beef and other products of their own industry, to be bartered in the markets for a year's supply of family necessities. The charter of the Turnpike Company was repealed in 1841, and the road became a public highway; by this, Bedford was burdened with another bridge and a section of road to maintain, which, because of its location, was of but little benefit to the citizens.

When the turnpike was opened this town was obliged to build two short lines of public road for the accommodation of families located near it. One of seventy-five rods, in the east part of the town, made a new opening to Burlington, and one in the vicinity of Abner Wheeler's (Ernst's). May, 1822, the road from John Merriam's to Lexington, two rods wide, was made a town-way. But few additions were made to the highways after the opening of the Chelmsford road until the coming of the railroad.

A short cut from Vinebrook mill (Staples') to the village was made by opening the road from Lyon's barn across Shawshine River to the old road at Blodgett's house. This added another bridge to the town's care. The records show that while freed from building new roads, much attention was given to straightening and improving the old, but, fortunately, enough curves remain to preserve the rustic beauty of the town; these are appreciated when driving for pleasure, but often condemned by the ambitious farmer in his haste to reach the market. In 1874 the road going south from the village was widened and straightened to accommodate the travel occasioned by the opening of the Middlesex Central Railroad. Loomis Street was soon opened as an eastern approach to the railroad station.

"Webber" Avenue, built in 1884, and "Hillside" Avenue built, in 1888, were private enterprises, but were soon accepted by the town as public ways.

"Fletcher" Avenue, laid out by Matthew Fletcher, is still a private way, but enjoyed by the public.

**RAILROADS.**—In the summer of 1873 the ground was formally broken and work commenced on the bed of the Middlesex Central Railroad in this town. The town invested \$20,000 in the enterprise and has never regretted the step. In the autumn of 1874 the road was opened for travel from Concord to Lexington, where it connected with the "Lexington Branch of the Fitchburg." The stage-coach, which had lingered here much longer than in any other town within equal distance of Boston, was set one side.

In the autumn of 1877 a railroad of a two-foot gauge was opened between Bedford and North Billerica. A road of this kind had been operated in Wales with success, but none so narrow had been built in this country. The novelty of the road, its cheap con-

struction and equipments attracted much attention. Foreign philanthropists sought for the plans and returned to Europe with cheering reports. The rolling stock of the road consisted of two locomotives, "Ariel" and "Puck;" two passenger cars; two "excursion" cars and a few others for freight. For some months trains made regular trips over the road, and the experiment was a success as far as the working capacity was concerned, but it was a financial failure. According to a report in the *Scientific American* of March 16, 1878, the cost reached \$60,000 while the estimate was \$50,000 or \$8000 per mile. A portion of the subscription "proved unsound or fraudulent," which, with the extra cost, unplanned for, placed the road in an unfortunate condition before it was ready for service. It was unpopular from the starting of the trains and never succeeded in regaining the confidence of the people in general, although some judicious men never lost confidence in the road as an ultimate success pecuniarily, but time was not allowed to test the wisdom of the plan. The road was thrown into bankruptcy and the rolling stock sold by assignees for \$9000 in June, 1878. Thus the loss to Billerica and Bedford became a benefit to the Sandy River Railroad in Maine, where the rolling stock was put to immediate use.

Individuals were the only investors here, but they, with many mechanics of the town, lost heavily by the failure, while the owners of the land through which the road passed were in many cases liberally compensated for damages by holding the rails, etc.

In 1885 the Boston and Lowell Company, then controlling the Middlesex Central, built a line from Bedford to connect with their main line at North Billerica, following substantially, through this town, the abandoned bed of the "Narrow Gauge." The town invested \$2000 in this enterprise. By the addition of this line Bedford became a railroad junction, and is within ready access of Lowell and Boston, having abundant accommodations. As regards the time required for reaching the capital of the State, Bedford is to-day where Arlington was twenty years earlier.

## CHAPTER XV.

*Stage-Routes—Post-Office—Postmasters—Industries—Residential Town—Inventions.*

THE opening of the Chelmsford road, so called, in 1823, contributed greatly to the facilities for travel, and Bedford Centre became a popular thoroughfare. Competitive stage-routes were established from Concord, N. H., to Boston, in one of which Bedford merchants were stock owners. This fact, together with the popular roads and well-kept taverns, led to the selection of Bedford as a way station, where relays of

horses were kept. Other stage lines passed through the village, one of which was from Lowell to Woonsocket. An enterprise, strange, indeed, to the present generation, was created by the regular coming and going of the coaches, loaded inside and out with merchants and tourists. A public conveyance led to the establishing of a post-office in Bedford and in 1825 Elijah Stearns, Esq., was appointed the first postmaster. The first mail that left the town contained but one letter. Postage was an item of importance, and with many people correspondence was necessarily limited. The rates ranged, according to distance, from six cents to twenty-five, and prepayment was optional. A letter from Billerica to Bedford must necessarily go through Boston, incurring a postage of ten cents. A widow at Bedford received, in one day, letters from four sons, who were struggling for an education in different schools, and her bill at the post-office was one dollar. The postmasters in the order of their appointments are: Elijah Stearns, John A. Merriam, Reuben Bacon, Thomas Stiles, Jonas Munroe, Thomas Stiles, Henry A. Gleason, Marcus B. Webber, Charles G. Fox, Marcus B. Webber, Henry A. Gleason.

INDUSTRIES.—Bedford has always been classed with the agricultural towns of the State; although in common with all inland settlements during the colonial period, the people were largely engaged in supplying their own wants, hence every family conducted its own manufacturing. The cumbersome loom, with its oaken beams, spinning-wheels great and small, hetchel, cards and the like, were requisites here longer than in towns on the direct line of the first public coaches. With this primitive machinery the lamb's warm fleece was turned to cloth, and dyed with indigo at the chimney-corner, while the flax, from the fields, was made into snowy linen by the same deft hands that were equally skillful in manufacturing golden butter and savory cheese, not only for domestic use, but to exchange for other necessities. The housewife had her annual season for preparing the year's stock of "tallow-dips" or candles and manufacturing soap for family use.

The blacksmith hammered out the nails of all sizes, and with the aid of the woodwright supplied the farmer with all his tools. The itinerant cobbler made the boots and shoes from leather tanned in the neighborhood vat. The village had its brick-kiln. Charcoal was manufactured and Tarkiln Brook (crossing the south part of the town) suggests a day when the sap of the early forests was boiled to tar and resin on its winding banks. When the brave pioneer's life was over the village carpenter made the coffin for his body. It was early in the present century that the people of Bedford began to contribute to the increasing demands of a growing population outside of its own borders. In 1805 Jonathan Bacon and John Hosmer began the manufacture of children's shoes for Boston market. They were both of an inventive

mind,—made their own lasts and prepared their own patterns. The business increased and other firms engaged in the enterprise; among them were Benjamin Simonds, Zebedee Simonds, Reuben Bacon, Chamberlin & Billings. Several hundred people of both sexes were employed. Young men from other localities were apprenticed in the service of the different firms, many of whom settled here and became leaders in public affairs. When the business was at its height the annual sales amounted to upwards of ninety thousand pairs, at an estimated value of fifty thousand dollars. This was all hand work, and the employes were, to an individual, American born. "No shoes were in better credit than those made in Bedford." When machinery was introduced elsewhere, and all classes of people were employed in producing all grades of work, the demand for the superior articles, made here, gradually slackened, and after a time the business entirely ceased. Another enterprise carried on here quite extensively, when the shoe business was at its meridian, was the manufacture of hand-boxes. Women were employed chiefly and many young women were attracted to the town to engage in this employment. Not a few of them formed holy alliances with the young men of the shoe firms and together became the founders of some of the most enterprising families.

George Fisk in the north part of the town and Amasa Lane in the east carried on this line of manufacturing. At first thinly-shaved wood for the foundation work was obtained from New Hampshire, but later a machine was introduced and the whole work was done here. The size of the boxes varied according to the fashion of the ladies' bonnets, which was variable in those days, as at the present, and created a demand equal to the supply.

About the year 1812, inquiring minds were turned to a geological formation that had already been used for paint. The first meeting-house, when repaired after the Revolution, was painted with the material known as the "Bedford Yellow." As before mentioned, it was found in the largest quantities on the Sprague farm. Thompson Bacon and others engaged in the enterprise. For some years it was used as a mineral paint—yellow ochre.

A stratum of clay was discovered on the southern border of the town and citizens engaged in the manufacture of bricks for local use. The clay was teamed to the centre, where a kiln was prepared and sufficient quantities burnt to build several houses and chimneys for others. The manufacture of charcoal became an important industry at one time. David Rice, the village blacksmith, burnt the coal for his own forges in a field near Carlisle bridge, while in the south fields the business was carried on more extensively, a market being found in and about Boston.

About the year 1839, Jonathan Bacon invented and patented a blind fastener known to the trade as "Bacon's Patent Lever Blind Fastener." They were

made by hand and were the most approved article of the kind in the market for some years. In the year 1832 about 4000 sets were made in town. Mr. Bacon received encouragement from Edward Everett, who pronounced the first pattern exhibited to be an article of value, as it proved to be. This patent was a source of a good income to Mr. Bacon, and the manufacture of them gave employment to several workmen in iron. Tanning and currying as an industry was carried on in the latter part of the eighteenth century and the opening years of the nineteenth. It was carried on at the centre by James Wright, Sr. and Jr., successively, and by the Convers family in the south part of the town. It was chiefly of local interest and prepared leather for home market. The farmers' habit of wearing leather aprons and sheepskin breeches created a local demand, long since discontinued. The bark for tanning was ground by revolving stones after the manner of a corn-mill. The Wrights were succeeded by Benjamin F. Thompson, who in after years removed the industry to Woburn.

About 1840 a paper-mill was established on the site of the Wilson corn-mill, on Vine Brook, and the manufacture of coarse paper was carried on for a series of years, giving employment to many hands. The business was removed after the destruction of the mill by fire, causing the removal of one-tenth of the inhabitants of the town. After this calamity the industries, "with the exception of the manufacture of local necessities," were chiefly agricultural, until after the close of the Civil War. The opening of the Middlesex Central Railroad in 1873 furnished direct and easy communication with Boston, only fifteen miles distant, and prepared the way for a decided change, which is now rapidly taking place. Men, whose business centres are in Boston, are establishing homes, and the centre of the town is fast becoming a residential village.

The old system of farming is giving way to the culture of small fruits and vegetables, and acres are covered with glass for the purpose of securing early crops. The Colonel Jones farm of colonial days, in the west part of the town, comprising many acres on the "Great Fields" sought by the first settlers, is being used for the propagation of nursery stock.

Grazing has become an important feature of agriculture, and the production of milk for Boston market has increased rapidly with the improved facilities for transportation. About six hundred and fifty cans of eight quarts each are daily shipped from Bedford. Many tons of superior quality of hay are annually produced, for which there is a good local market. Acres are annually planted with cucumbers, for which a ready market is found at a packing-house where cucumbers, gathered when quite small, are manufactured into pickles.

A wood factory for the manufacture of miscellaneous articles, gives employment to several men, and the town has its complement of cartwrights, black-

smiths and other artisans. Several men are employed with teams in marketing wood, cut from the forests of the town, but the growth keeps even pace with the consumption. The "Bacon Snow Plow," invented by Isaac P. Bacon, is considered the best horse-machine in use for clearing snow from sidewalks, and is used in the large towns of the county. The inventor died without having secured a patent and the industry is lost to the town.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

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*Springs—Lakes—Ponds—Public-Houses—Bedford Springs.*

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THE streams of the town have never contributed very largely to its industries, although in the early days there were more places where the water-power was utilized than at present. Manufacturers have been benefited by damming the Concord River near its confluence with the Merrimack, while the people of Bedford have seen their broad meadows depreciate in value by the overflow of the banks. Peppergrass Brook, which drains the western slope of the village, furnished power for a saw-mill at the opening of the present century; the mill was located on the southerly portion of Winthrop farm and owned by Job Lane. The Winthrop, or Great Meadow Brook, was utilized by the early inhabitants; a remnant of the dam is now to be seen on the left side of the highway in going from the village to the East School-house. Farther down the same brook and near Sandy Brook bridge was another mill. There is evidence of an early mill near Farley Brook. The natural ponds cover but a small area. The dams at the saw-mills on Shawshine River and Vine Brook have aided in forming small ponds where ice is gathered for local use. "Spring Pond" or "Fawn Lake" covers several acres, and is fed by a succession of springs; it is a beautiful sheet of water and adds much to the attractiveness of the estate.

PUBLIC-HOUSES.—Benjamin Danforth and Walter Pollard were the inn-keepers of the town, very soon after the incorporation, and possibly furnished entertainment to travelers before the town was organized. The early records show that Danforth and Pollard each had bills against the town for entertainment as early as 1738. The former was doubtless located on or near the site of the "Shawshine House," and was succeeded in business by Captain John Webber and his son, John Webber, Jr. The Pollard Tavern was near the Job Lane Mill, and the Fitzgerald house of the present is thought to represent the original house, in part. It was re-located after the discontinuance of the highway from James Lane's to Thaddeus Fitches'. Tradition furnishes proof of the honesty of Pollard by



515 RD. H. 11



showing that he represented goods, offered for sale, in their true condition, thus: "Want to buy any yellow pork?" says Walter Pollard. "Think not," says Job Lane. Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., opened a tavern about the year 1766. It was there that the minute-men of the town lunched on the morning of April 9, 1775. The opening of the stage routes and the increase of teaming through the town led to the opening of a tavern towards the close of the eighteenth century. Its location was near the present corner of Concord Street and Park Avenue. It was first kept by Phineas Chamberlain; he died in 1809, and his successors were Stearns, Porter, Flint, Hurd and Phelps. The house was destroyed by fire in 1837. At the opposite end of the village David Reed opened a tavern in 1797, and conducted the business until his death in 1832. The present "Bedford House" was built in the first quarter of the present century, as a private house, by Joshua Page. It was soon enlarged and turned into a public-house, and has been so kept until the present. In 1888 the sale of intoxicating liquor was suppressed in the town, and the property purchased by a stock company. The house now furnishes the comforts of a first-class suburban hotel.

"Bedford Springs" is located about one and four-fifths miles north of and on the Billerica side of Bedford Village. The name is derived from three natural fountains strongly impregnated with mineral properties. This place was included within the Oakes farm which consisted of 150 acres, granted by Cambridge to Captain Gookin, in exchange for his lot on the township, and by him sold to Thomas Oakes. It is evident that the lake and never-failing springs of pure water attracted the attention of the aborigines long before 1633-44, when "Shaweshin was granted to Cambridge."

Family traditions furnish unmi-stakable evidence leading to this conclusion.

The keen students of nature early detected the remedial properties of the bubbling springs. The Pawtucket Indians had settlements in this vicinity and their medicine-men resorted to these waters. Scattering remnants of the tribe made occasional visits long after the Wamesick Purchase of 1685, by which "all manner of Indian rights and claims to that parcel of land granted by the General Court to the town of Billerica" were honorably extinguished.

Mrs. Franklin Stearns, of Billerica, who was born in 1801, tells the following: "My mother, who lived near the springs, often told me that she remembered distinctly when the Indians came a long distance to fill their leathern bottles with water from the springs and told her, when stopping at her home, that it was medicine." These children of the forest also brought their sick to bathe in the waters. This evidence seems to have been lost sight of, and the instinct of the brute creation was needed to lead man to this fountain of health. About 1835 the farm was owned by Augustus Pierce. It consisted chiefly of woodland

and pasture land. The owner furnished pasturage for the villagers' cattle. It was noticed that the cattle always went to the springs for water rather than to the open pond, and that cows having access to the springs were in better condition and gave better milk than those confined in neighboring pastures, where the grass was better, but the water was taken from other sources. This led to the analysis of the water by Dr. Jackson, of Boston, whose report, confirmed by later chemists, gave rise to the present beautiful health resort.

A company was soon formed who bought the real estate, and a commodious building was erected for hotel purposes. The enterprise was never a financial success until the Billerica and Bedford Railroad was put into operation. The estate was purchased by William R. Hayden, M.D., in 1856. It then comprised forty acres of land with the hotel, stable, bath-house and bowling alley. It now comprises 175 acres, with buildings added, at a cost of \$25,000. An equal sum has been expended on the grounds, making one of the most attractive health resorts within equal distance of Boston.

Here is the laboratory of the New York Pharmaceutical Company, of which Dr. Hayden is president. They make here 350 different preparations for druggists and practicing physicians, of which Hayden's Viburnum Compound, The Uric Solvent and Phosphorus Pills are the principal. More than 25,000 pounds of the Viburnum Compound were shipped from this place during the last year (1889).

The Billerica and Bedford Railroad passes over the western border of the grounds, making the resort within convenient access of Boston and Lowell. The hotel, now under the proprietorship of William Adams, is filled with guests of prominence during the summer months. A post-office was established here in 1888, of which Dr. Hayden is the postmaster.

Bedford Springs is a distinct natural feature of the town, and the pharmaceutical works are entirely separate from all other enterprises, but they, together constitute the most attractive feature of the town. A sketch of the life of William R. Hayden, through whose perseverance natural possibilities have become realities, and whose fertile brain has produced a blessing world-wide in its extent, will be found elsewhere in this connection.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

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*Fire-Engine—Enforcement of Laws—Drunk Custom—Witchcraft—Bonny for Crows, etc.*

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THE first action of the town towards procuring a machine for extinguishing fire was in October, 1827,

when \$225 (two hundred and twenty-five dollars) were appropriated for that purpose, "providing the sum could be increased to an amount sufficient to purchase an engine with equipments for service." This was done by organizing a stock company of nineteen members, each owning a share, the par value being \$15 (fifteen dollars). Each owner of a share held a certificate which, by vote of the town, entitled the bearer (provided he be deemed eligible) to a preference in the appointment of engine-men, who were annually appointed by the selectmen, agreeable to the statutes of Massachusetts. In 1845 hooks and ladders were added to the apparatus, but fortunately there was but little use for the machinery, and but little attention was paid to it after a few years.

In 1879, after a disastrous conflagration, the town voted to buy a suction hand-fire-engine, and the sum of \$475 (four hundred and seventy-five dollars) was appropriated for it. This being done, the "Shaw-sheen Engine Company," of forty members, was formed, and paid an annual fee of \$2 (two dollars) each.

The "Winthrop Hook-and-Ladder Company" was also organized, and in 1883 the annual compensation was increased for the members of both companies to six dollars. Cisterns for the storage of water were built in 1888, and the town is well protected against the ravages of fire, at an annual expense of about \$300 (three hundred dollars).

Bedford has always been jealous of its good name, and made haste to mete out justice to any who, by violation of law, have brought reproach upon it. In March, 1797, and for several succeeding years, officers were chosen to prevent theft, with instructions to pursue offenders to justice at the public expense. At this time there was a family in town so addicted to larceny that its members would steal from each other. The vigilance of the officers is apparent, as one of the family was brought to condign punishment by being tied to an apple-tree (in the absence of a whipping-post) in the village, and publicly and legally whipped with thirty stripes. This was the second offence; a third was punishable "by the pains of death without the benefit of clergy." This act of justice was not sufficient to deter other members of the family from similar offences, and the town was not rid of the family until two farmers, whose estates joined that of the offenders, purchased their farm, upon condition that they should not relocate in the town.

A greater evil, the sale of intoxicating liquors, met with but little opposition until 1828. The customs of society here, as elsewhere, gave full endorsement to the free use of ardent spirits in public and private. The "flowing bowl" was prominent on both solemn and joyful occasions. The records are remarkably free from itemized bills for liquors, but the oft-repeated charges for "entertainment," together with

traditions, leave no room for doubt as to the nature of the entertainment furnished at the public charge. In 1801 the use of liquor at funerals was abolished by vote of the town. In 1822 a committee was chosen to repair the Common, free of expense to the town for labor; but they were allowed to furnish "those that do the work with some spirit at the expense of the town." It is doubtful whether it would not have been more economical to have paid for the labor. In 1834 the overseers of the poor were instructed not to furnish ardent spirits for the poor unless directed by a physician. The first temperance society was organized in 1830, and moral suasion was faithfully applied, but it was not until 1888 that the State law was made effectual, through the vigilance of the "Law and Order League." To remove unfortunate possibilities, public-spirited men purchased the Bedford House property and organized a stock company.

The witchcraft delusion, that had been such a scourge in the Colony, had left its effect upon credulous minds in this town. There were those who attributed every mysterious occurrence to an eccentric old woman. They believed she was responsible for the power that is now seen in a balky horse—refusing to advance, or a wheel to revolve on a neglected axle. There is a tradition that in the early years of the Revolution, when the British troops were stationed in Boston, this woman, in the disguise of a Tory, had a concerted meeting with some of the proud officers of the army. She represented to them that she had a great secret, which she would reveal upon their paying a heavy fee. The officers, anxious to engage in the enterprise, met her, upon agreement, at midnight near her own home. On being satisfied that the booty was in the chaise of the officers, she led them, by the dim light of a flickering candle, across a narrow plank which served as a temporary bridge over a swollen stream into a dark recess; she then extinguished her light, recrossed the bridge, which she pulled after her, secured the bags of English coin and went home. The ambitious officers, foiled in their undertaking, gladly left the town, but not until they had aroused a family and obtained aid in the search for their team and guidance back to Boston.

It appears that the early farmers of Bedford were greatly annoyed and their crops seriously damaged by the crows, blackbirds and squirrels. This was a prevalent evil in the Province, so much so that the General Court enacted a law in 1740-41 authorizing towns to pay a bounty on the heads of the little creatures, and were reimbursed from the Province treasury. There was allowed "for every dozen of blackbirds taken in their nests, and not fledged, twelve pence; for the like number of blackbirds grown and fledged, three shillings; for each crow, six pence, and for every water rat, gray squirrel and ground-squirrel, four pence." The town indorsed this law at once, and the boys, stimulated by a bounty for the work of destruction, entered upon a competi-



tive war of extermination. The treasurer's report of 1741 shows twenty-two orders "given to parsons for squirrels and birds," amounting to £12 14s. 8d.

The list includes the names of the leading men of the town. As orders were only drawn for the parents, the number of individuals enlisted in the work of destruction is not determined, but there were, doubtless, as many as one hundred, and the records show that the practice was continued for years. One boy, William Webber, in his eagerness, mistook an owl's nest for that of a crow's, and when about to capture the fledglings was attacked by the mother owl, which plucked out one of his eyes, subdued the youth and provided a priceless meal for her brood. In 1823 the town voted "not to allow Robbins to be killed in the town this year." In 1829 voted "to pay twenty cents for old and ten cents for young crow's heads, caught and killed within the limits of the town."

## CHAPTER XVIII.

*Profanity and Drunkenness Punished by Fines. Tithingmen and their Duties. Menial Offices—English Right.*

At the time of the incorporation of Bedford, profanity and drunkenness had become flagrant crimes in the Province, and occasioned special legislation. In 1734 the following act was passed by the General Court:

"Whoever shall be convicted of prophane swearing or cursing shall, for the first offence, forfeit and pay the sum of ten shillings; and for every such oath or curse after the first, uttered at the same time and in the hearing of the same person or persons, the sum of two shillings, and for a second offence the fine was ten shillings." The fine for drunkenness was ten shillings for the first offence, and twice that for a repetition. In order that the law should be enforced, tithingmen were annually chosen as town officers. Their general duty appears to have been to promote the Divine honor and the spiritual welfare of the people, by encouraging family worship and discipline, and checking profanity, Sabbath-breaking, idleness, intemperance and kindred immoralities. The official title, "Tithingmen, or tenth men," originated from their having a titling, or a company of ten families, each to oversee, including their own. Two such officers only were chosen at the first town-meeting, and as subsequent records furnish no evidence of an increase in number, it may be inferred that the people were disposed to obey the laws here better than in some places.

The most respectable voters of the town, often the deacons of the church, were elected to this office and sworn to the faithful discharge of the duties.

They were required by law to make complaint to

the magistrate of what they saw amiss in any one under their inspection. Long poles or staffs were furnished as instruments of authority, and especially used in the meeting-house during public worship. In the expenses for 1742, Oliver Pollard has a charge of "1 shillings for tithing men's staves." The faithfulness of the officers appears in a record of 1764, in which Stephen Davis, treasurer, gives credit for "4 shillings for a fine for a prophane oath." It was the balance after deducting the cost of the prosecution. Tithingmen were annually chosen by the town until 1848, but their duties had long before fallen to other officers. In March, 1822, Deacon Michael Crosby, Zebedee Simonds, James Webber and Elijah Stearns, Esq., were chosen as tithingmen and sworn to the faithful discharge of the trust. They were instructed to keep such order on Lord's day in the meeting-house and the Centre School-house as they may think proper. By virtue of a law of the Province of 1739-40, deer-reeves were annually chosen with the other officers of the town. The record of December 17, 1789, has the following: Voted, "that violation of the act relating to killing of Deer in the province be legally prosecuted. Major John Lane and Mr. Thomas Woolley be for that service sworn to the faithful discharge of the trust." Hog-reeves were chosen at the first election of officers in the town, and annually thereafter. As the town voted that the swine should go at large, according to the restrictions of the law, the duty of the hog-reef was to see that the animals were properly yoked from April to October. The remaining months they were allowed to go free and untrammelled.

"The English Right," an annuity from estates in the mother country, was of great assistance to some of the early families. The Lanes and Pages were the beneficiaries for several generations. It originated in New England with Job Lane (before mentioned) and came to the Page family, through the marriage of a granddaughter with Nathaniel Page, the second of the name in this country, who was born in England and came a youth with his father, Nathaniel, to Boston in 1682, and to Bedford (then Billerica) in 1687. A fragmentary correspondence, consisting of scores of letters and bills, dating from 1651, between the custodians of the English estates and Job Lane, is among the interesting papers treasured in Bedford. The annual remittance was sometimes made in merchandise according to the requests of the owners, as appears from items preserved. "May 2, 1721, St. Stephen writes alone: Sende 6 large quarto bibles," one of which is now owned by Miss Sarah Chandler, of Lexington. It contains the Page family record. A letter dated "London Mar. 20, 1754, to Job & John Lane," expresses regret that "the Bibles did not suit."

"July 26, 1748, Zach. Bourryan sends Mathew Henry's Exposition on ye Bible 5 and 6 vols." Dress fabrics were often ordered and received, and two of

the ladies of Bedford appeared on important occasions attired in the "English Gowns." The arrival of the large leather-covered trunks were occasions of much interest to the several families. It is evident that the town did not fail to exact a tax on the income, as appears from the records of 1744: Voted "not to abate the Rates that the Lanes and Pages—gentlemen—were assest for their income from England." During the Revolution the income was not received and the privations of that period were felt more severely by those families than by others that had depended upon their own energies entirely; but after peace was restored with England the full amount came in one remittance. The English law of primogeniture was not transferred to this country. New England adopted the older rule of the common law, by which all the children shared alike in their parents' estate, except in Massachusetts, where the oldest son had a double portion. The legal claimants of the Lane income at length became very numerous, and the just division very difficult; hence the claims were sold in the early part of the present century.

Job Lane died in Malden, August 24, 1697, and his estate was inventoried at £2036 11s., the larger portion of which was in New England.

Other families received aid from England in the early years of the town's history, as appears from the following: "Feb. 23, 1756, Widow French's rates abated for income at England."

The following is a copy of the goods ordered by one of the heirs of the Lane estate:

"BEDFORD, September the 16, 1785.

"Mr. Lane, this is to Inform you what Articles I am Desirous to send to England for.

"Art. 1st. one Piece of Cheints for one gown, Very Dark.

"Art. 2d. one Piece of Sattain for one Cloak.

"Art. 3d. One half Piece of Baze.

"Art. 4th. one yard & three-quarters of Scarlet Broad Cloth.

"Art. 5th. one Silk Handkerchief.

"Art. 6th. The Rest in fine Linnen.

"In So Doing you will oblige,

"CHRYST PAVEL."

## CHAPTER XIX.

### NOTED OCCASIONS.

THE ordination services at the settling of the ministers, mentioned in the Ecclesiastical section, comprised all of the convocations of note previous to the year 1800. On the 22d of February of that year a most imposing ceremony was participated in by the whole town in honor of General George Washington, who had died in the closing days of the last century. Rev. Samuel Stearns delivered the memorial sermon.

In the various anniversary celebrations of Concord fight, held by the mother town, Bedford has been well represented. In March, 1850, ten leading men

were chosen to confer with the people of Concord in regard to the seventy-fifth anniversary, and three of the vice-presidents were from this town at that celebration. At the centennial, April 19, 1875, a good company of civilians was in the procession with banners. The one carried by Bedford minute-men one century earlier was borne by Isaac E. Fitch, and one with the following inscription: "Captain Jonathan Wilson killed April 19, 1775. He died for us and Liberty," was carried by Abram E. Brown. Both standard-bearers were great-grandsons of those who fought on the memorable day at Concord.

On Memorial Day, 1874, the Soldiers' Monument was dedicated with imposing ceremonies. The parent towns of Billerica and Concord assisted in the services. The former furnishing a Post of the G. A. R. and brass band and the latter sent Company C, of the Fifth Regiment, and a brass band. Josiah A. Stearns, A.M., was president of the day; Ralph Waldo Emerson, Sampson Mason and Rev. William J. Batt were among the speakers.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town was the grand jubilee day of its existence. At the autumn town-meeting, September 30, 1878, it was voted that the town would observe this occasion. Rev. Jonathan F. Stearns, D.D., one of Bedford's sons, was chosen to prepare an historical address, and a large committee of citizens was chosen to conduct the celebration. The committee organized with Josiah A. Stearns, chairman; Rev. George F. Lovejoy, secretary, and Oliver J. Lane, treasurer.

The funds for the celebration were obtained by subscription; more than six hundred dollars were contributed to the general fund; besides, there were many generous contributions for special objects.

When plans were so far matured as to issue notices and invitations, the committee called for a name for the celebration, and Mr. Elijah W. Stearns, the village druggist, called from his ancient Latin the numerical adjective "Sesqui" (one and a half). This gave the occasion a tinge of novelty and added spice to the post-prandial remarks.

August 27th, the day on which "the Great and General Court" that granted the charter for the town commenced its session, was selected for the celebration rather than September 23d, the date of the act of incorporation. This was to accommodate sons of Bedford engaged in literary work who were then enjoying their annual season of rest.

A mammoth tent was erected on the fields near the Common, where the exercises were held and the dinner served.

The occasion was replete with interest for young and old. For judicious planning and careful execution, the Sesqui Centennial of Bedford is recorded as an event that reflects credit upon all who contributed to its success. Chief among many were the historian and president of the day, both of whom,

with a brother, the last of the sons of Bedford's honored minister (Rev. Samuel Stearns), have, since that day, joined the great company that they labored to honor through that celebration.

The organization of the church, which took place in July following the incorporation of the town, was celebrated in July, 1880, by the Church of Christ, connected with the Trinitarian Congregational Society. Rev. George F. Lovejoy, pastor of the church, preached an historical discourse, which was printed in pamphlet form. At the conclusion of the services a thank offering was made and the society freed from debt.

The fiftieth anniversary of the gathering of the first Sabbath-school was held in July, 1868. It was an occasion of general interest. Rev. William F. Stearns, D.D., president of Amherst College, and other sons of Bedford, were prominent in the celebration.

The seventieth anniversary was another important event, when a general reunion was enjoyed. The history of the school, in pamphlet form, was issued at that time.

## CHAPTER XX.

### *Topographical and Miscellaneous.*

BEDFORD is in about the central part of Middlesex County, fourteen miles northwest of Boston and twelve miles south of Lowell. It is connected with both cities by rail.

It has Billerica on the north, the same with Burlington and Lexington on the east, Lexington, Lincoln and Concord on the south, and Concord and Carlisle on the west, from which it is separated by Concord River.

The village stands on a slight elevation and constitutes a water-shed. Peppergrass Brook extends in a winding northwesterly course and Trout Brook in a southwesterly course to Concord River. Shawshine River enters the town from Lincoln at its extreme southern point and flows the entire length of the town, east of the village, entering Billerica at the north. It receives the waters of Tar Kiln Brook soon after entering Bedford, and after crossing Lexington Main Street it receives Elm Brook, which drains a long range of meadows on the Concord side and takes in Hartwell Brook on its course.

Spring Brook, an outlet of Fawn Lake at Bedford Springs, unites with Potash Brook or Ash Gutter in its southeasterly course to the Shawshine, which it reaches near the East School-house. Vine Brook enters the town from the east and becomes an important tributary of Shawshine River. Other small streams are tributary to either Concord or Shawshine Rivers. The only motive-powers, utilized at present are on the Shawshine River and Vine Brook.

"The soil," says Alfred C. Lane, of Boston, a grandson of Bedford, in "Notes on Geology of Bedford," "may be divided into three kinds—the dark peat of the swamps and meadows, boulder clay and high level sand-beds."

The peat is found on the lines of the water-courses, where a considerable portion of the surface appears to have been formed of vegetable matter and was used for fuel, before the development of coal-mines; a firm white sand subsoil which underlies this vegetable deposit made it comparatively easy to cut out the peat or turf in convenient pieces to stack for drying. It is also used as a very good fertilizer for the sandy soil of high lands. The cranberry and an inferior quality of grass are natural productions of this soil, and turned to some profit by the farmer. The boulder clay is composed of sand, pebbles and boulders, together with clay varying in quantities according to the location. This is supposed to have drifted here with the ice and been deposited during the glacial period. The underlying ledge crops out in some locations and shows unmistakable signs of the southerly course of the ice-fields. The most noticeable is in the vicinity of the North School-house.

The boulder clay is the soil found in the northerly part of the town, more generally than elsewhere; it is hard to cultivate, but productive when broken and fertilized; if left in its natural condition it produces the huckleberry and other small fruits of comparatively little value.

The sand, besides forming the subsoil of the peat lands, is thrown up many feet above the stream level and found in beds; by digging in these beds one may easily detect layers of successive deposit, which indicate the action of the water when the ice was disappearing, before any well-defined water-courses had appeared and this territory was an inland lake. The pine trees seem to be the natural production of this soil, which is light and dry, but when enriched becomes productive and is easily cultivated.

In general the geological formation is calcareous gneiss and sienite, in which are found good specimens of garnet. "In Bedford the strike of the gneiss is northeast and the dip nearly perpendicular." Hitchcock mentions the yellow ochre in connection with a rusty mica schist.

Bedford is indicated as a locality for garnet by Dana and Hitchcock both, and at one time the attention of the people was turned to this formation, as of merchantable value, but it was not remunerative. The iron and sulphur springs indicate the decomposition of certain mineral properties that are visible in some locations about Bedford Springs.

The village is well drained and free from miasmatic influences. It is classed among the very first localities of the State in point of healthfulness. No destructive contagion has visited the town since about 1750, when a throat distemper battled the skill of physicians and brought sorrow to families in the east part

of the town. Longevity is noticeable in the families that represent the first settlers and particularly in the Davis, Lane, Page and Hartwell families.

**TREES.**—Besides the pine already mentioned, there is the white cedar, that takes kindly to the peat of the low lands in the vicinity of Concord River, and the red cedar found in small quantities, making its slow growth in the boulder clay, where oak, maple and birch flourish the most abundantly; the elm flourishes here, having been planted by the early settlers for shade, and many venerable specimens are standing—useful monuments of the past. *Flora*: The following is condensed from a local work, "Some of the Wild Flowers of Bedford," by Charles W. Jenks, a careful student of the soil and productions of his ancestral territory:

"The wild flowers of Bedford are neither numerous nor rare. We have few deep valleys of rich soil, and few running brooks falling over rocks, both of which localities are the chosen haunts of many species. The earliest, perhaps, of all our flowers is one rarely noticed, the skunk cabbage, which may often be found in March, with its peculiar spathe of yellow or red, peeping out from some damp or swampy place.

"Soon after, along the banks of ditches or in low meadows, the cassandra or leather leaf, with its long line of heath-like bells; this plant, if gathered in fall or winter and kept in a warm room, will blossom freely. Together with this is generally found the sweet-gale, a low shrub with small and insignificant catkins, but having a delicious aromatic fragrance. Then, after the hazels and alders have flung their delicate tassels to the wind, the whole array of spring flowers is upon us—seven species of violets, blue and white (the yellow I have never seen in the town limits, though I have found it in the neighborhood); the wood anemone, with its neat and prettier relation the rue anemone, the columbine or honey-suckle, the houstonia, the false Solomon's seal, often called wild lily of the valley, and that little marvel of beauty and color, the fringed polygala, the marsh marigold, under the false name of 'cowslip,' lighting up the meadows with its brilliant yellow, and occasionally, on some rocky land, the early saxifrage, the bell-bower with its pale yellow lily-like flower, and deep in some pine grove the moccasin flower or lady's slipper, one of the most curious of the remarkable family of orchids, the trillium or wake Robin, which among us is represented by its least attractive form, the nodding species—these, with many others, make up what may be called the spring flowers. Then the shrubs begin to blossom—the shad-bush, the rhodora, with its purple flowers, followed by the many viburnums and cornels, the wild cherry, the choke, and the more palatable black or rum-cherry, the barberry, with its nodding raceme of yellow flowers, whose sensitive stamens throw the pollen on to any insect visiting it, to be borne to some other flower; the low

and high bush blueberry, huckleberry and the azalea, with its clammy white and spicy flowers.

"About the middle of June, in the meadows, will be found the side-saddle flower, more commonly known as huntsman's-cup or pitcher-plant; about the same time of the year, and generally with the side-saddle flower, are found two of our early orchids, the arethusa and pogonia or adder's-tongue, resembling each other in shape,—the former of a deep magenta color and the latter much paler, but with a delicious fragrance. A little later, in these same meadows, will be found the yellow lily, the tall meadow-rue, the trumpet-weed with its large heads of dull purple and the button-bush with its globular head of flowers, while hidden in the grass, but making itself known by its odor, is the meadow mint. Then along some water-course, either ditch, brook or meadow, bursts forth the flaming cardinal flower, one of the brightest and most brilliant of all our flowers, and never so handsome as when seen in abundance in its native place. With this fore-runner of autumn come the goldenrods; the clematis, clothing the bushes over which it climbs with a beautiful wreath of white flowers, followed by the feathery fruit; the ground-nut, with clusters of fragrant chocolate-colored flowers; the clethra or white alder lining the road in some swampy place and sending forth a rich spicy odor from its pure white spikes; then the asters, purple and white, along the roads, the woodlands and meadows, of as many species and as difficult of determination as the golden-rods; the gerardias, the tall yellow and the smaller purple species; the gentians, the deep blue with its closed flower, and among our latest, if not the last of all, the fringed gentian, by many considered our most exquisite flower. The only companion of the gentian is the witch-hazel, with its weird-like yellow blossoms, which comes late in the fall and does not mature its fruit till the next season.

"The plants found in and along the river seem worthy of special mention. Among the earliest is the yellow water-crowfoot, which is found in May, and resembles a large buttercup. Later in the season the shores are lined with the blue pickerel-weed and the white arrow-head, while farther out are the white and yellow pond lilies,—the latter in two species, one much larger than the other; the bladder-worts are also found. "In August the hibiscus or swamp rose-mallow may be found on its banks, while in the river itself is the water-marigold and the beautiful floating-heart.

"The family of composites is largely represented at all seasons of the year. The dandelion, golden-rods, asters, cone-flower, wild sunflower, trumpet, iron-weed, thistle, hawk-weeds, climbing hemp-weed, elecampane, white-weed or ox-eye daisy, and tansy are of this family. Among the orchids are the lady's-slipper, pogonia and arethusa, four or five species of rein-orchis, including the ragged-fringed and the pur-

ple-fringed, the rattlesnake plantain, two species of ladies' tresses, the calopogon and rarely the coral-root.

"There are a few parasitic plants found in Bedford, the dodder being one of the commonest; the Indian-pipe is found in some of our woods and in many pine woods, the pine sap or false beechdrops, and rarely the one-flowered cancer-root. Rushes, sedges and ferns are also found here and furnish interesting study to any one enjoying the science of botany."

## CHAPTER XXI.

*Early Method of Collecting Taxes—Some Early Customs and Improvements.*

For many years the town was divided for the purpose of taxation into classes. They were designated as the south list and the north list. The two constables were the authorized collectors and the duty of levying the tax fell to the selectmen. The tax for each department of government was assessed by itself, which made the duties of these officers the most important within the gift of the town.

In the year 1736, after the expenses of organizing the town and church had been met, the rates and portions were as follows and entered upon the records as here given:

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Province tax . . . . .		67	2	6			
Nathaniel Page is to collect . . . . .	36	6	3	North			
Daniel Taylor is to collect . . . . .	30	18	9	South			
County tax . . . . .		1	9	6			
Nathaniel Page is to collect . . . . .	2	8	1	North			
Daniel Taylor is to collect . . . . .	2	1	3	South			
Rev. Mr. Bowes' salary . . . . .		120	0	0			
Nathaniel Page is to collect . . . . .	64	11	2	North			
Daniel Taylor is to collect . . . . .	55	5	10	South			
Town and School tax . . . . .		94	0	0			
Nathaniel Page is to collect . . . . .	49	11	8	North			
Daniel Taylor is to collect . . . . .	44	17	1	South			

Constables were required to use severe means, even to resort to imprisonment, to secure the collection of the "rates."

The following is a copy of the warrant issued to the constable for the collection of the taxes in 1743: (But two punctuation marks appear in the original, and they might be regarded as accidental)

"Moby Ss. To Zachariah Fitch one of the const of the Town of Bedford Greeting In his Majestys name you are Required to levy and collect of the several persons named in the list herewith committed unto you each his respective proportion therein set down of the sum total of such list being here assessment granted and agreed upon by the Inhabitants of the town of Bedford Regularly assembled for defraying the necessary charges arising with in the same and to deliver and pay in the sum and sums which shall so levy and collect unto John Whitmore Town Treasurer or where you shall have orders from the selectmen, and to compute and make up an account of your collections of the whole sum and or before the first day of June next inserving the date here of and if any person or persons shall neglect or refuse to make payment of the sum or sums wherewith he or they are Respectively assessed and set in the

said list to detain the goods or chattels of such person or persons to the value thereof and the distress or distresses so taken to keep by the space of four days at the cost and charge of the owner and if the owner do not pay the sum or sums of money so assessed upon him with four days than the sd distress or distresses so taken you are to expose and openly sell at an outcry for payment of sd money and charges notice of such sale being posted up in some publick place within the same Town Twenty four hours before hand and the over plus coming by the sd sale If any be beside the sum or sums of the assessment and the charges of taking and keeping of the distress and distresses to be Immediately restored to the owner and for want of goods or chattels whereto to make distress you are to seize the bodie or bodies of the person or persons so refusing and him or them commit unto the common goal of the said County there to remain until he or they pay and satisfy the several sum or sums wherewith they are Respectively assessed as aforesaid unless upon application made to the Court of general Sessions of the peace the same or any part thereof be admitted

Dated in Bedford October y<sup>e</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> day 1743

By orders of the assessors

ISAAC PUTNAM

Town Clerk."

The following is the tax-list of Bedford in 1748:

*South List.*—Samuel Bacon, Stephen Davis, James Dodson, Joseph Fitch, Zachariah Fitch, Peter Fassett, John Fassett, Benjamin Fassett, Joseph Hartwell, Henry Harrington, William Hastings, James Houston, John Merriam, Amos Merriam, Samuel Merriam, Nathaniel Merriam, John Moore, Joseph Meads, Walter Powers, Paul Raymond, William Raymond, Edward Stearns, James Rankin, David Taylor, Thomas Woolly, Jonathan Woolly, Thomas Woolly, Jr., Richard Wheeler, Samuel Whitaker. *North List.*—Abel Abbot, Josiah Bacon, Josiah Bacon, Jr., Benjamin Bacon, Michael Bacon, John Bacon, Thomas Bacon, Jonas Bowman, James Chambers, John Corbet, Samuel Dutton, Benjamin Dandoth, Conchus Dandley, Benjamin Fitch, Jeremiah Fitch, Josiah Fassett, Jonathan Grimes, Benjamin Hutchinson, Timothy Hartwell, Benjamin Kibler, Deacon Job Lane, Cid, John Lane, Capt. James Lane, John Lane, Jr., Job Lane, Jr., John Lane, (Jr.), Timothy Lane.

The basis of suffrage in 1810 appears in the warrant for the spring meeting: "To the freeholders and other votable inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in town-meetings, namely, such as pay to one single tax, besides the poll or polls, a sum equal to two-thirds of a single poll tax."

In 1812 "a voter must have been a resident for the space of one year, and have been taxed during said time for his poll. The property qualification was then declared to be a "freehold income of ten dollars or other property valued at \$200."

The changes in the observance of funeral rites, as indicated by the records of this town, have been as great as in any direction. The custom of holding any religious service at the burial of the dead was not general when this town was incorporated, but it was the custom to furnish mourning friends with certain articles of wearing apparel, and the custom was observed in some families in a modified form until a much later date. The following receipt is self-explaining:

"Boston, June 24, 1715, Recd of Mr. Job Lane, of Billerica, y<sup>e</sup> sum of ten pounds, at twice, for gloves for y<sup>e</sup> funeral of his father." "I say need by me,—E. S. F. F. F."

Rev. Samuel Stearns was instrumental in breaking up the drink habit at funerals, which was carried to a most ridiculous extreme in some cases. In 1804 the town voted "That the practice of carrying round drink publicly or in a public manner, and also of inviting the bearers to return to the house of mourning after the funeral, be laid aside." It was also voted

"That notice be given to those who are desired to officiate as bearers, previous to the time appointed for attending the funeral. That two or more suitable persons be appointed by the town to superintend on these solemn occasions. That prayer be attended in one hour after the time appointed for the funeral." In 1817, after the erection of the new meeting-house, and purchase of the new bell, it was voted "That the bell should be tolled one hour before the time set for the funeral service. It was also customary to notify the people of the death of a fellow-citizen by tolling the bell and indicating the age of the deceased by the number of strokes of the bell. On the Sabbath following a death, all of the members of the family were expected to attend the service of public worship at the meeting-house and present written petitions for a remembrance in the "long prayer." The "note for prayers" was expressed according to the case—that of a widow was as follows: "Mrs. B. desires prayer that the death of her husband may be sanctified to her and her family for their spiritual good." Petitions were also sent in for prayers for recovery of the sick, or delivery from impending danger. It was expected that the pastor would make early calls on Monday following, upon all of the sick who had thus asked an interest in the public prayer.

In 1810 Mr. William Page gave a hearse to the town. Until that time the dead were carried to the burial-ground on the shoulders of men. When intoxicating liquor was too freely used the scene became most disgraceful. It was a repetition of these scenes that led to the action of reform by the town.

The erection of the frame of a building—"a raising"—was an occasion where the sublime and ridiculous were strangely combined. The people of the town assembled in large companies, and aided in putting the massive oak timbers together and pulling the frame into place, a side at a time. The minister was expected to attend and offer prayer during the work, and all were treated to as much liquor as they would drink. At the raising of Colonel Timothy Jones' house, about the year 1780, tradition says, the Rev. Mr. Penniman gratified his appetite for strong drink so much that he offered one of his most peculiar addresses to the Deity, and when returning home fell from his horse and lost his wig. This was found by the boys, and some days later put in a hollow log near his house, when the owner was called upon by the boys to assist in capturing a wood-chuck that had lodged in the log, and there found his much-needed article of dress, instead of the little animal.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON HAYDEN, M.D.

The subject of this sketch was born in Salem, Mass., May 7, 1820, in a house on the opposite corner to the one in which White was murdered by the Knapps

and Crowninshield. In 1821 his parents removed to Moultonborough, N. H., where they lived a few years, and William was sent to the village school for a brief term. The family next moved to Boston, which was to be the scene of the boy's development into manhood. He attended the North Bennet Street School, under the instruction of "Master Capen." His father was lost at sea, and the family having no reserved means, the mother was thrown upon her own resources for their support.

About this time William entered the law-office of the Hon. James T. Austin & Sons, Joy's Building, as errand boy, for the liberal salary of one dollar per week, where he remained one year, at the end of which time he went to live in the family of Mr. Ansel Lucas, at South Abington, Mass., where he had the opportunity of attending school, and where he made good progress. At the end of eighteen months Mr. Lucas moved to Eel River, now Chiltonville, a suburb of Plymouth, where he remained until the death of Mrs. Lucas, who was a most estimable lady, and very much beloved by all who knew her.

William, who was then sixteen years old, returned to Boston, to be his own lord and master, with but little experience in the ways of the business world. Being of a sanguine temperament the future appeared to him to be all beauty and sunshine. Oh, Youth! Oh, Hope! angels of beauty and love, you are kind only to be cruel, and when dark clouds overcast your gorgeously painted sky, despair is near. William soon found that the price of honest bread was labor, and that he must find employment, which he did with Mr. Tucker, one of the original conductors on the Boston & Worcester Railroad, in delivering letters, packages and money parcels from the railroad to parties in Boston, dividing with Mr. Tucker the proceeds of this primitive express business. At that time Mr. Harnden was ticket master in the Boston & Worcester depot, which position he resigned to succeed young Hayden, and at that time commenced the regular express business between Boston and New York, which has now become so important and extensive.

The next scene was the pit of the old Flag Alley Theatre, and the first appearance of our hero in a play-house. The mimic world was a new revelation, and from that hour he was simply "stage-struck." He hung around the stage-door to see the tinsel kings, queens and villains enter and exit. They were the beings of romance.

The next scene was the old Fredonia Society, in Devonshire Street, where John B. Gough, William O. Eaton, John Salmon, George A. Wyatt and other noted amateurs delighted the "Hoodlums" and our subject played *Doric* in "A Race for a Dinner." The favor accorded to the Fredonia gave life to the Historic Society, which was well fitted up for the times in Castle Hall, corner of Castle and Washington Streets, which sent forth several noted actors, amongst them James Stark, Octavus Johnson, Harry Paul



*W. A. Snyder III.*





and others. There was a rivalry between Stark and Hayden for leading parts. At one time Mr. Stark, being manager, and desiring to play the leading part in the play called "The Seven Clerks; or, The Three Thieves and the Denouncer," cast Hayden in a minor comic part out of his line, much to his chagrin. Feeling the slight and that he should not do himself credit, he went on the stage sure that he would fail, but instead of that he made a brilliant success, playing the part twenty-one nights to overflowing houses. He was afterwards elected president and manager of the society, but as there was no income from amateur theatricals, he entered the Old National Theatre under William Pelby as a supernumerary and assistant property man.

The child prodigy, Miss Davenport, during an engagement at "The National," in one scene of a play in which she appeared had to pay off some factory help, who filed before her and received their tin money. Several passed her in due order accepting their pittance, when our hero, being the last and not being satisfied with his part and aspiring to be author and actor, accepted the coin with all the disdain of which he was master, threw it upon the stage, and with folded arms stalked down to the foot lights and out at the prompter's entrance. The audience saw the "gag" and cheered the "supe" to the echo. Manager Pelby was a witness of the *debut*, and coming down to Wright, the prompter, exclaimed, "Who in hell is that boy?" On being informed he said, "Give him some small business; he will rise." Desiring to obtain a position in the company of the Old Lion Theatre, there being no opening for a novice, he accepted a place as a supernumerary in the play of "Mazzeppa." The actor who had a short speech to make as a sentinel on a bridge, being taken suddenly ill, the manager gave orders to have one of the supernumeraries placed on the bridge and when Mazzeppa entered the wing and motioned him to go off, he should do so. Hayden was the one placed there, and having become familiar with the lines, he, instead of leaving the bridge, went on with the part, much to the surprise and satisfaction of the manager, and continued in the part until the piece was withdrawn. He next joined a strolling company of players as leading man and "did" some of the prominent towns in this State. The business was bad, the manager stranded, and his company with empty pockets were obliged to "foot it to Boston." Mr. Hayden established the *Dramatic Mirror*, which, however, after a few months, died of what the doctors would call "marasmus." He next became a clerk for Mr. George W. Redding, a news agent at No. 8 State Street, Boston.

When W. H. Smith, the eminent actor, was manager of the Boston Museum, he gave Mr. Hayden an engagement at that theatre, but on account of sickness this engagement was canceled, and, much to his regret, his theatrical career closed.

Dr. Hayden has been thrice married—first to Re-

becca Wyman Erskine, in 1840, by whom he had three children, one of whom still survives (Mrs. R. W. Rouse, of Port Richmond, New York). Mrs. Hayden died in 1847.

For his second wife, in 1850, he married Maria B. Trenholm, of Falmouth, a lady possessing remarkable intellectual abilities. In 1866 she graduated in New York as a physician, and for several years had a large and influential practice, and was on the Board of Medical Censors. Mrs. Hayden had four children, two of whom survive her, she dying in 1884.

In 1885, for the third wife, he married Sarah Holden Everett, by whom he has three children, who are now living.

In 1845 he commenced the study of medicine, graduating in New York City, where he followed his profession for eleven years, when he moved East to accept the presidency of the New York Pharmaceutical Company the laboratory of which is now in successful operation, making 350 medicinal preparations for the physicians and druggists, three of them being specialties from original prescriptions of Dr. Hayden, and are in high repute with the medical profession. They are THE COMPOUND PHOSPHORUS PILLS, THE URIC SOLVENT and HAYDEN'S VIBURNUM COMPOUND, the latter having a most extensive sale, and being of a remarkable character. The company has received and published the written testimonials of more than five thousand physicians, being more than was ever before given by the profession for any other special remedy in the history of medicine. At the end of the first year after the incorporation of the company it virtually failed, and proposed to close up the business. To this Dr. Hayden objected and endeavored to arrange to carry on the works on his own responsibility. After much negotiation a trade was made, which at the end of twenty-four years is a great success.

In 1867, when Dr. Hayden came to Bedford, there was no railroad nearer to Bedford and the Springs than Lexington (six miles distant). Dr. Hayden went before the Legislature and obtained a charter for a line from Lexington to Bedford, which was built by the Middlesex Central Railroad Company.

The next move was for a narrow-gauge road from Bedford to the Springs and North Billerica, which was also built, Dr. Hayden being the second president of the road, which practically was a success. Dr. Hayden, who desired this road changed to a standard-gauge road, enlisted in its behalf the co-operation and able services of Mr. Mellen, the general manager of the Boston & Lowell Railroad, without whose favor it would not have been done. Some idea may be gained of Dr. Hayden's labors when we state that at one time he was president of the New York Pharmaceutical Company; working chemist and pharmacist, doing all the compounding in the laboratory; landlord of the Springs House Hotel for sixteen years; having for six or eight years the larger part of the

practice in the town of Bedford, two miles distant; visiting Boston upon an average of five times a week; having for the past twenty-five years written all the company's hand-books and advertisements, attending to the general business, and carried on a farm of forty acres. During Dr. Hayden's residence in Bedford he has served the town one term on the Board of Selectmen, and two terms on the School Board, and received a very large majority of the votes of the town for the Legislature. During the past three years Dr. Hayden has built two laboratories and one of the most beautiful houses in the country, and made an extended tour of Europe, from Ireland to Italy, Austria, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, England and Scotland.

Dr. Hayden has visited Europe several times and made the acquaintance of some distinguished men, among them Lord Lytton (Bulwer Lytton) Professor John Ashburner, Louis Blond, the Rev. James Smyth, and the great Robert Owen, Robert Chambers and many others, and in this country he enjoyed the personal acquaintance of William Lloyd Garrison, Horace Greeley, Theodore Parker and other reformers.

Bedford Springs, the residence of Dr. Hayden, is one of the most beautiful spots in New England, sixteen miles from Boston, on the Bedford and Billerica Railroad. The estate comprises about two hundred acres of cleared and wood land, one of the largest artificial lakes in the State, a summer hotel, three medicinal springs, railroad station, express and post-office, and is a little world in itself.

In religion Dr. Hayden is an agnostic, in politics a progressive Republican, believing in the party when it is in the right, but never when in the wrong. His creed is, "Right and Justice for all men and women alike."

#### JONATHAN BACON.

Jonathan Bacon was descended from Michael Bacon, who went from England to the north of Ireland, where he lived for several years, when, in 1640, he came to this country and settled in Connecticut. Michael Bacon, son of Michael, settled in that part of Billerica which is now within the limits of Bedford. He built a saw and grist-mill on Shawshine River, which was burned by the Indians in King Philip's War. At his request a military guard was detailed for his protection, and his mill was rebuilt. A saw and grist-mill, owned by Charles Clark, now stands on the site occupied by him. In the early history of Bedford, which was incorporated in 1729, the Bacon family was a prominent one. In a petition to the selectmen of Concord for permission to be set off as a new town, dated May 1, 1728, the name of Joseph Bacon appears, and at the first town-meeting of Bedford, held October 6, 1729, Jonathan Bacon was chosen one of the Board of Selectmen. Among the taxable inhabitants of Bedford, in 1748, were Samuel

Bacon, Josiah Bacon, Josiah Bacon, Jr., Benjamin Bacon, Michael Bacon, John Bacon and Thomas Bacon. In 1780 Jonas Bacon enlisted as a soldier in the Revolution, and Jonathan Bacon was one of the signers to the covenant of the first church in Bedford, organized immediately after the incorporation of the town. Benjamin Bacon, who was born December 6, 1713, and died October 1, 1791, was chosen a deacon of this church February 15, 1759.

Thompson Bacon, son of John Bacon, of Bedford, and a member of this family, married Martha Hosmer and had nine children—Jonathan, John, Reuben, Elbridge, Thompson, Eliza, Nancy, Octavius and Albert. Of these, Reuben was an extensive manufacturer of shoes in Bedford, and Albert is still living in his native town. Another of these children, Jonathan, the subject of this sketch, was born in Bedford April 15, 1785. With only the advantages of a common-school education, he was in his early life employed on his father's farm. Possessing a naturally thoughtful mind, his attention was soon turned to mechanical pursuits, in which he displayed an ingenuity which laid the foundation of his eventual success. Associated with John Hosmer, he was the first in this country to engage in the manufacture of women's and children's shoes, and his careful management resulted in the establishment of a profitable enterprise, which gradually increased and before many years was carried on by a considerable number of firms.

In connection with his shoe business he made patterns for lasts, and for shoes, which he manufactured himself, and thus opened the way for the display of his inventive powers in a broader field. He soon found that new mechanical enterprises, more congenial to his tastes, required the abandonment of his manufacture of shoes, and, selling out that business, he ever after devoted himself to inventive study and the manufacture of such devices as were its result, and their sale to the trade. George H. Gray, Joseph West, Charles Brooks and Horton, Hall & Co., of Boston, were among the principal dealers in his articles of manufacture. Among these devices were sash and blind fastenings, latches and various carriage appliances, of which the article known as "Bacon's Patent Lever Blind Fastener" has been for upwards of fifty years on the market, and has never yet been equalled by anything used for the same purpose.

Mr. Bacon married Abigail, daughter of Eben Clark, of New Ipswich, New Hampshire, an officer in the Revolution, and at one time on the staff of General Washington. His children were Abigail, who married William Ripley, of Abington; Clark, who married Emma C. Burr, of Hingham; Frederick, who married Ann Robbins, of Bedford; Caroline, who married Isaac Hurd, of Concord; Eliza, who married Prescott J. Bigelow, of Abington; Warren, who married Lucy A. Lawrence, of Bedford; Jerome A., who married Marion M. Darling, of Boston, Eliza F. Merriam, of Boston, and Anna R. March, of Bedford;



*James H. Brown*



and Emma A., who married Sebastian Kramer, of Boston.

Mr. Bacon, though largely interested in public affairs, neither sought nor accepted office except such as he believed that he could administer for the benefit and welfare of his native town. He was chairman of the Board of Selectmen of Bedford for many years, only consenting to an election because he believed it the duty of every citizen to bear his share of town burdens, and to perform his part of a townsman's duty. Further than this he refused to go, and at one time declined a nomination equivalent to an election to the State Senate. In politics he was a Federalist and Whig, and as long as he lived, after the organization of the Republican party, he was one of its devoted members. Civil service reform, so far as a part of its policy is concerned, would, if he were now living, be a novelty to him.

As long ago as August 28, 1810, during the Harrison campaign, he drew up and signed a constitution for a political association advocating the election of General H. as senator, in which opposition was declared "to members of Congress distributing executive patronage until two years after they had ceased to be such." He belonged to that class of men whom older readers well remember, distributed all over the Commonwealth, some in almost every town, who ruled the communities in which they lived, not by wire-pulling, trickery and self-seeking, but by advice and counsel, sought and followed on account of their wisdom, and by an honest and earnest effort to put the best men in office, and thus promote and secure the public welfare.

In theology he belonged to what was called in his day the liberal wing of Orthodoxy, and remained in the old church and parish when they became Unitarians and the conservative wing organized a separate society.

It will not be difficult to portray the character of the man thus briefly sketched. With a mind elastic and susceptible of expansion and growth, with a training which had implanted within him a love of truth, integrity and faithful labor, he combined a tenderness of spirit and an affection for his family and home, a regard for public interests and a respect for the rights, comfort and welfare of those about him, which made him a conspicuous figure in his town, and one receiving the entire confidence of his friends and neighbors.



## CHAPTER XXII.

*Public Grounds. — Deed of Bulk Common. — Location of Public Buildings — Wilson Park.*

If I were a painter, I could paint  
The dwarfed and straggling wood,  
And the hillside where the meeting-house  
With wooden bellry stood,  
A dozen steps from the door, — alone,  
On four square pillars of rough gray stone.

ALICE CARY.

THIS town has but few parks or public grounds. The "Training Field, or Common," now comprises the land about the meeting-house which was erected in 1816 by the town.

The enclosed tract represents but a fractional part of the land at first held by the town for public purposes. According to records referred to in a previous chapter, the gifts of land in 1729 "inwards the encouragement of the new town" amounted to thirteen acres, but it is evident that a much larger portion was held by the town. It is possible that the tract given by the several donors proved by survey to contain more than the recorded promise indicated, as was the case in the Winthrop farm. It appears from the vote of Oct. 13, 1729, that land was obtained by purchase as well as by gift. "Samuel Fitch and Stephen Davis were chosen to take care of the Bond and to take the Deed for the Town of the land that Wadkins that he sold to the Commuity." This doubtless refers to land bargained for before the incorporation, on which to begin the meeting-house in anticipation of the new township. As the only committee at work before the incorporating act was passed, that needed land, was the building committee, the conclusion most naturally is that the land on which the meeting-house was erected was obtained by purchase, and not by gift, as tradition has led many to believe.

Sixteen acres of the common land went to Rev. Nicholas Bowes as a portion of his settlement fee; about one acre was assigned for a burial ground in the lot given by Israel Putnam; and from time to time highways have been taken from the common land.

It is evident that the site selected for the meeting-house was covered with heavy timber, and that the present village site was an unbroken forest, save where a few bold pioneers had made clearings and established homes away from the parent villages. "Trodden paths" had been marked out in winding courses by travellers in their journeys from one settlement to another.

Evidence leads to the conclusion that the

meeting-house was built from timber cut and hewn on the ground, and that more was standing when the question of providing a school-house was decided in the affirmative in 1741.

The vote was to build a house, or buy one of Benjamin Kidder, and if the committee decided to build they were to cut the timber on the town's land,—"the bigness of the house to be twenty feet in length and sixteen feet in width and seven feet and a half stood." As the committee succeeded in buying Kidder's house for £12, the school building was provided without cutting the giants of the forest, and they remained until a later period.

Land divested of the timber was of but little value when this town was incorporated, and bounds were very indistinct for a good many years after that time. In a conveyance made in 1758, by Daniel Walker to Benjamin Kidder, is the following: "Bounded partly on range way and every other way by sundry lots of land." In setting off the "widows thirds" of the estate of Joseph Bacon is the following description of bounds: "It turns and runs two polls by the onion garden, then running to the road through said onion garden." In 1730 the town appointed a committee "to stake out so much of the town's land as is convenient for the use of the town about the meeting house, and a training place." Forty years later it appears that another committee appointed to settle the bounds of the Common reported the boundary line upon its southerly and easterly sides the same as the previous committee. The records lead to the conclusion that the first meeting-house was erected on the northwest corner of the Common and near the highway, and that the first school house was erected on the northeasterly corner. About the time of the erection of this school house the town had the Common surveyed; and a plan of it, made by Thompson Bacon, Esq., is to be seen in the record book. But little attention was given to improving the Common, and it was travelled over in a promiscuous manner until about 1850, when the fence was built by the united efforts of the parish and citizens, and travel across it by team was discontinued. Trees were planted and well-defined walks laid out, and it is now a most attractive spot. When the town and parish became distinct corporations the ownership of the Common became a disputed question, both parties having enjoyed its privileges and contributed towards making necessary repairs. The plan already referred to shows that Joshua Page owned all of the land bounding the Common on the west, in the year 1806. Sheds for the protection of horses had

been located about the Common at different times, but about the year 1825 they had been more systematically arranged on the westerly side, and the owner of the adjoining land had but a limited frontage. Mr. Page, the owner of the land, was an enterprising man, and desired to put his possession upon the market for building lots, for which there was a pressing demand, and he succeeded in getting a vote of the town to remove the sheds to another location and to open a street. His statement to the town, styled a "memorial," is of interest in many ways. It serves to mark an era of great progress in the town; shows the condition of the surface of the land in that vicinity when in its natural state; indicates the aggressiveness of the man, and shows what prompted Mrs. Hannah Reed to give the land known as the "Back Common" to the town.



*Hannah Reed*

The deed of conveyance from Mrs. Reed was made March 3, 1831, and contains the following: "The intention of this conveyance is to furnish the town of Bedford with a place or a piece of land where, and on which, such of its inhabitants as have occasion, on the Sabbath, to use horses and carriages to convey themselves or their families to meeting and on public occasions to the centre of the town and may wish for a shelter for their horses and carriages, they may under the direction of the town erect or place stables for such purposes; also to furnish said town with a place where as it may have occasion, it may erect or place sundry small buildings as a school house—hearse house and the like, provided that no such building shall

be of such size or be so placed as to inconvenience the use of said land for stable ground . . . nor interfere with the reserved rights of ways, and the area not so used shall be forever open to the inhabitants of said town as a promenade walk, or Training field—and where it bounds on said Common shall at all times be kept open and no inclosure or incumbrance shall be suffered within the area thereof. The Town shall always have the right of prescribing and controlling the location of the stables and other building lots."

This gift was but one of many acts of generosity recorded to the honor of Mrs. Hannah Reed. The town purchased the Flint land in 1891 for a school house and play ground, and the full benefit of the Common has since been realized by the town.

Besides the buildings already mentioned, there were upon the town's land the "Pound" and the "Bell House." The former was deemed indispensable in a well-regulated community, and a corner was assigned for it in January, 1732-3. Its location was changed in a short time, and the abandoned "Pound" at length became the foundation of John Bacon's shoe shop. A new "Pound" was built in a corner of the Back Common, and this remained until the spring of 1891, when its walls were put into the foundation of a new School House. The location of the Bell House is fixed by the vote taken Oct. 9, 1753: "Voted, To hang the bell about two rods and one half northward of the School house and as near to Mr. Benjamin Kidder's wall as can be with convenience. Voted also to build a house not less than twelve feet nor more than fourteen feet square and that the house be so high as to hang the mouth of the bell sixteen feet high." (See Frontispiece.)

A few rods west of the village there is a triangular piece of ground which remained unimproved for many years. When the Village Improvement Society was organized this ground was graded and ornamented, and is now a place of interest. There stands upon it one of the most symmetrical oak trees to be found in this locality. The indications are that it is as old as the town. Captain Jonathan Wilson marshaled the "Minute Men" of the town in this vicinity on the morning of April 19, 1775, before going to Concord, where he lost his life; and the people by general consent have named this improved angle of ground Wilson Park.



## CHAPTER XXIII.

*A Glimpse of the Ancient Meeting-House and the Congregation—  
Foundation Members of the Church—Roll of Pastors and  
Deacons.*

[After the chapters of ecclesiastical history had passed through the press, it became possible to obtain a memory sketch of the first meeting-house and photographic views of the later houses of worship; hence this chapter descriptive of the buildings, with other details, is appended.]

The rude structure represented in the frontispiece was a meeting-house in the broadest sense of the term; for in it were held all of the public gatherings, both of a secular and religious nature, for many years.

It is evident that when it was first occupied it contained only rude benches, and possibly these had not been provided when Jonathan Bacon assembled the first town meeting.

Clad in the coarse garments from their own looms, with sheepskin breeches and leathern aprons, inherited from their fathers, these brave men assembled in the inclement month of January, 1730, and made plans to "lot out the pew ground." William Hartwell, Stephen Davis, and Dea. Israel Putnam were made a committee to perform this service, and also to assign the lots to those who were ready to build pews. This proved the most difficult task assigned to any committee during the organization of the town and church. The description of pew lots was unaccompanied by a plan, and as they were not uniform in size, and erected by individuals at different times, it may be supposed that difficulties often arose in regard to titles. The records show that erring human nature led some to infringe on their neighbors' rights.

It at length became apparent to the people that some form of record must be made, and in the autumn of 1734 the pews thus far built were described and recorded as follows:—

BEDFORD Oct. ye 18 1734.

A record of the Pews in the meting house in Bedford by order of the Commitey Wil. Hartwel, Step. Daves, Dea. Israel Putnam with the advice of the Selectmen. A record of the pnes as the Commete loted them out.

First. Dea. Nathaniel Meriams pue is at the East end near to the pulpit in the meting house at the north end.

2d. The second pene is Mr. William Hartwels is at the East end of Dea. Nathaniel Meriams pue in the north side of the meting house.

3d. John Fassets pue is at the west end north of the door agenst the window in the meeting hous.

4th. Thomas Woolleys pue is in the front on the west side of the grat door under the 2d window from the grat door in the meeting hous.

5th. Nathaniel Paige's pue is on the front on the east end of the grat door in the meting hous.

6th. James Lanes pue is the 2d pue from the grate door in the front joyning to Nathaniel paiges pue.

7th. Joseph Bacon pue is at the no east corner of the meeting hous joyning to William Hartwels pue.

8th. Josiah Bacons pue is at the east end of the meeting house joyning to Joseph Bacons pue.

9th. Daniel Daveses pue is at the East end of the meting hous joyning to Josiah Bacon pue north of the east door.

10th. Stephen Daveses pue is at the east end of the meeting hous, South of the east door goying to the womens stayers.

11th. Lt. Job Lanes pue is on the north side of the meeting house goying to the ministril pue.

12th. Benjamin Colburn pue is at the west end of the meeting hous on the South of the west door goying to the mens stayers.

13th. Capt. John Lanes pue is on the south side of the meeting house west from the south door goying to Thomas Woolley's pue.

The records show that other allotments were made at subsequent meetings. The reader will observe that a pew and a seat were entirely unlike.

In a meeting of November, 1734, Article 4th "was to see the minds of the Town whether they will grant Joseph Dean a pue in the two hind seats in the meeting house either side of the grate aley, it was put to voat and past on the negative."

It is apparent that only the more affluent citizens took "pue ground" and built pews in the opening years of the town's history; and that others occupied the seats, and from time to time, as circumstances warranted, received their lot and built after their own plan. The difference in style of pews was chiefly in the height of the partition walls and provisions to keep out the wind.

In 1741 six men asked to change rear seats to pews with raised platforms, and offered for this privilege to build a school house for the town, but the offer was not accepted by the voters.

On another occasion a voter was allowed to change the partition walls of his pew on condition that he should not place them so as to shut off the view of the minister from his neighbor's pew.

Besides the pews, there was the pulpit, far up above the floor, and reached by a winding stairway on the west side, next to the minister's pew. The desk projected into the audience room, after the style of a shelf, and beneath it were the deacons' seats. The minister was elevated about ten feet above the congregation, and the deacons' seats were slightly elevated. These men of distinction sat facing the people, and apart from their families. This custom origin-

ated from their duties of "Deaconing" off the hymns, and lasted long after that service was abandoned.

The rustic condition of the meeting-house remained until after the Revolutionary War, with the exception of a few needed repairs. In 1767, "Voted to shingle the fore side of the meeting house and do it with eighteen inch shingles and lay them but five inches and a half to the weather and that it be well done and done by the last of Sept, next and that they also mend the back side."

At the close of the war general repairs were made, and alterations in keeping with the times.

A vivid description of this meeting-house, as it appeared at the opening of the present century, was given by Rev. Dr. William A. Stearns, late president of Amherst College, in an address delivered at Bedford in 1868, from which the following is taken:—

The first meeting-house stood on the north side of the Common, very near the road, the west end facing towards the village. It was painted, or rather was covered, or rather half covered,—for the paint was nearly worn off,—with a thin coat of dark, dirty yellow. It had no bell, steeple, tower, or cupola. The underpinning was constructed mostly of small stones, some of which the boys would easily remove when they were playing "hide and seek," and crawl under it. There were three outer doors, one opening south, one towards the east, and one towards the west. At each door was a horse-block, designed for the special accommodation of ladies, who often rode to church on a pillion behind their husbands or fathers.

In the interior of the house, the pulpit stood on the north side, next the road. In the front was a gallery of pews; on the left hand, a gallery of long seats, which the singers occupied; on the right, a gallery, filled mostly by single men, who had no other seat; up back, high in the corners, or cock loft, as they called it, were the negro pews, rarely occupied by more than one or two of that class of worshippers. Up over the front gallery, in the ceiling, was a scuttle, opening, if it ever was opened, into the roof. It had a mysterious look to children, and I used to hear it said sometimes in the village that it was the place where the tithing-man put naughty boys. I believe the town powder was kept up there for some years. The pews below were square, high, and with banisters under the railing, which the children, when standing, could look through, and would amuse themselves with turning and squeaking when they could do it with impunity. The seats of the pews, rarely cushioned, were hung on hinges, so that they could be turned up for comfort in standing during the long prayer, "which often reached half an hour in length." Oh, I remember, as though it were yesterday, how those old seats used to come clattering down when the prayer was over, as if they were saying, according to the different spirit of the worshippers, "Amen, amen; glad you are done, glad you are done; amen!" The house never had a fire in it, and in the winter, oh, how cold! I see the minister, with the



thermometer down to zero, with coat, cloak, and gloves on, and handkerchief round his neck, till thawed out by the warmth of his subject, he threw some of them off. I hear the men, in such weather, knocking their feet together, here and there over the house, during the latter half of the sermon, as if they were saying, "Oh, do stop; I shall freeze to death if you do not say, Amen, soon!" I hear the windows rattle, and the howl of the storm without, and almost shiver just as I used to, as I sat, curled up in solemn endurance, looking sometimes wishfully at the foot-stove, which it was my privilege to carry, but, being a boy, not often to enjoy.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS of the church, July 15, 1730: Nicholas Bowes, Joseph French, William Hartwell, John Hartwell, Nathaniel Merriam, Daniel Davis, Daniel Taylor, James Wheeler, Stephen Davis, Richard Wheeler, Daniel Cheever, Eleazer Davis, Jonathan Bacon, Obed Abbott, Nathaniel Page, Jr., John Lane, Jacob Kendall, Christopher Page, Thomas Dinsmore, Benjamin Kidder, Josiah Fassett. (Lemuel Shattuck, historian of Concord, credits eleven of the last twelve to Billerica, and later authorities add the last name to the list of that town.)

Pastors of Church of Christ and Town: Rev. Nicholas Bowes, Rev. Nathaniel Sherman, Rev. Joseph Penniman, Rev. Samuel Stearns.

Of Church of Christ (Unitarian) and First Parish: Rev. Mr. Davis, Rev. Robert Wolecott, Rev. Joshua Chandler, Rev. George W. Woodward, Rev. Jason Whitman, Rev. William Cushing, Rev. George W. Webster, Rev. Grindall Reynolds; a period of stated supply, including the ministrations of Rev. Charles F. Russell, Rev. Thomas G. Milsted, and others; Rev. Geo. F. Piper, Rev. Samuel Andrew Dyberg (ordained and installed Dec. 10, 1890).

Of Church of Christ (Evangelical) and Trinitarian Congregational Society: Rev. Samuel Stearns (died in office), Rev. Jonathan Leavitt, Rev. S. Hopkins Emery, Rev. Oren Sikes (died in office), Rev. Henry J. Patrick, Rev. William J. Batt, Rev. George Lewis, Rev. Edward Chase, Rev. Otis D. Crawford, Rev. George E. Lovejoy, Rev. Howard A. Hanaford, Rev. Edwin Smith.

## DEACONS.

NAMES.	ELECTED.	DIED.
Israel Putnam,	1730, Aug. 4.	1760, Nov. 12.
Nathaniel Merriam,	1730, Aug. 4.	1738, Dec. 11.
Job Lane,	1738, Feb. 9.	1762, Aug. 9.
Benjamin Bacon,	1759, Feb. 19.	1791, Oct. 1.
Stephen Davis,	1760, Dec. 29.	1787, July 22.
James Wright,	1785, Nov. 3.	1817, June 9.
William Merriam,	1796, May 16.	1804, Sept. 10.*
Moses Fitch,	1805, June 10.	1825, Oct. 12.
Michael Crosby,	1817, July 15.	1836, Feb. 13.
Zebedee Simonds,	1826, Jan. 17.	1826, Sept. 20.

\* Resigned.

NAMES.	ELECTED.	DIED.
Amos Hartwell,	1826, Nov. 21.	1870, July 25.
Joel Fitch,	1836, June 13.	1845, Aug. 6.
Phineas W. Chamberlin,	1845, Nov. 13.	1878, Jan. 28.
William A. Stearns,	1870, June 13.	1871, March 22.
Thaddeus H. Davis,	1871, Aug. 4.	1877, Sept. 27.†
Isaac P. Bacon,	1877, Sept. 27.	1885, Sept. 18.
George S. Skelton,	1878, June 24.	1883, June 24.†
Henry A. Gleason,	1882, Oct. 6.	
Moses E. Rowe,	1886, March 29.	
George P. Davis,	1886, March 29.	

## Unitarian Church.

NAMES.	ELECTED.	DIED.
Charles Spalding,	1833, June 4.	1878, April 17.
William Page,	1833, June 4.†	
Eliab Lee,	1836, Sept. 24.	1842.*
George W. Cutler,	1870, July 5.	1873, June 30.
Edward T. Tuten,	1870, July 5.	1871.*

## CHAPTER XXIV.

*Second and Third Houses of Worship—Sale of Pews in the Second House—Rededication—Parsonage.*

SUCH parts of the frame of the first house of worship as could be utilized in the second were placed in the frame of that structure, and the building contains reminders of the primeval forest. When the second meeting-house was completed the spire reached the height of one hundred feet from the surface of the ground, and was regarded as a superior specimen of the architecture of the day, which opinion is endorsed by modern architects. The house still stands as a monument of the perseverance, fidelity and self-sacrifice of the people of Bedford.

This house was more distinctly a house of worship, as all matters of a secular nature were forbidden by a vote of the town. It retains its original appearance on the outside, with the exception of the south end. There were windows for the benefit of the congregation on either side of the pulpit and a means for lighting the desk; but these were all removed at the first season of repairing after the separation, and the high pulpit with its surroundings was substituted by one of more modern design. A later act was to shut off the galleries from the room below; and at the most recent repairing, mentioned elsewhere, a touch of modern art was given to the interior of the house. A plan is now (April, 1891) soon to be carried out, whereby a partial return to the original inside plan will be made, and much waste room will be utilized for social purposes.

The following is the list of purchasers of the pews when the house was completed, with prices paid. It will be seen that several individuals

\* Resigned.

† Term expired.

‡ Died in Somerville.

bought more than one, it being their way of aiding the enterprise.

NAME OF PURCHASER.	SUM TOTAL SOLD FOR.
Levi Willson . . . . .	\$162 00
Thompson Bacon, Esq. . . . .	144 50
Alford Fitch . . . . .	176 50
Lieut. Mather Hayward . . . . .	166 00
Michael Crosby . . . . .	167 00
Joshua Page . . . . .	166 50
Lieut. John Merriam . . . . .	159 00
Jeremiah Fitch, Boston . . . . .	160 00
Capt. John Reed . . . . .	145 50
Stephen Lane . . . . .	137 50
David Fitch . . . . .	122 50
Benjamin Bacon, Jr. . . . .	123 00
Job Lane . . . . .	104 00
Zebedee Simonds . . . . .	103 00
Joel Fitch . . . . .	89 00
Jesse Robinson . . . . .	89 50
Michael Crosby . . . . .	66 50
Daize Skelton . . . . .	64 50
Dr. Amariah Preston . . . . .	139 00
Timothy Jones . . . . .	136 50
Jonathan Lane . . . . .	128 50
Loel Sprague . . . . .	150 50
Capt. David Reed . . . . .	149 00
Jeremiah Fitch, Boston . . . . .	133 00
Benjamin Simonds, Jr. . . . .	131 00
Solomon Lane . . . . .	132 00
Dea. Moses Fitch . . . . .	139 50
David Lane . . . . .	109 50
John Webber . . . . .	117 00
Capt. David Reed . . . . .	112 00
Roger Lane . . . . .	120 00
Michael Crosby . . . . .	118 00
Willard Buttrick . . . . .	125 00
John Jones . . . . .	111 00
Moses Page . . . . .	115 00
Jeremiah Fitch, Boston . . . . .	87 50
Asa Mead . . . . .	95 50
Eleazer Davis, Jr. . . . .	99 50
Joseph Brown . . . . .	98 00
Oliver Pollard . . . . .	87 50
Nathaniel Page, Jr. . . . .	88 00
Lieut. John Merriam . . . . .	68 00
William Webber . . . . .	74 50
Josiah Hill . . . . .	56 50
David Rice . . . . .	64 00
Moses Fitch, Jr. . . . .	140 00
John Reed . . . . .	138 00
Elijah Stearns, Esq. . . . .	139 50
Capt. Elijah Skelton . . . . .	139 50
Simeon Stearns . . . . .	140 50
Jonas Putnam . . . . .	139 50
Samuel Sage . . . . .	99 00
James Webber . . . . .	99 50

NAME OF PURCHASER.	SUM TOTAL SOLD FOR.
Eliab B. Lane . . . . .	79 50
Capt. William Goodridge . . . . .	80 50

*Pews in Galleries.*

NAME OF PURCHASER.	SUM TOTAL SOLD FOR.
Lieut. Mather Hayward . . . . .	\$44 00
David Fitch . . . . .	44 50
Benjamin Simonds, Jr. . . . .	43 00
Elijah Bacon . . . . .	42 50
David Reed, Jr. . . . .	44 50
Obed Pollard . . . . .	43 00
Benjamin and Zebedee Simonds. . . . .	35 00
Lieut. Simeon Blodgett . . . . .	44 00
William Hartwell, Jr. . . . .	30 50
Capt. David Reed . . . . .	31 00
Sampson Spaulding, Billerica . . . . .	31 00
James Wright, Jr. . . . .	32 50
John Reed, 3d . . . . .	30 00
Capt. Elijah Skelton . . . . .	26 50
Joshua Page . . . . .	33 00
Michael Crosby . . . . .	29 00

Dea. Moses Fitch was chosen to give the deeds of the pews in behalf of the town, and his daughter, Rachel, very skilful with the pen, wrote the entire number.

The people were contented to remain through the long services, both of forenoon and afternoon, in the meeting-house, with no fire, until about 1830, when the question of introducing some heating apparatus was agitated; but it met with severe opposition and defeat at first.

The first innovation was a clumsy machine to furnish heat for the pulpit, so as to enable the minister to warm his fingers sufficiently to turn the leaves of his manuscript. The congregation retained their home-made mittens, and shivered on until a later date.

On Nov. 8, 1832, several of the citizens met at "Fuller's Tavern," and organized the Trinitarian Congregational Society. They at once proceeded to build a house of worship on land given by Jeremiah Fitch. This was enlarged by adding a chapel in later years. In the progress of time the house required a thorough renovation, which it received in 1886. A needle spire was placed upon the body of the house, ten memorial windows were substituted for the original plain glass, an apartment was added for social purposes, and the whole was completely furnished with modern appliances.

The first service held in the renovated house was that of the rededication, on Sept. 30, 1886. Then the sons and daughters of the town came home and made merry together under the roof built by the fathers fifty-three years before. Order of exercises:—





BUILT BY THE FATHERS IN 1832.



REBUILT BY THE CHILDREN IN 1886  
MEETING HOUSE OF TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY

Organ Voluntary.  
 Anthem.  
 Address of Welcome and Prayer, by Rev. Edwin  
 Smith, Pastor.  
 Doxology.  
 Hymn.  
 Reading of Scriptures.  
 Hymn.  
 Historical Address, by Rev. W. J. Batt.  
 Prayer of Dedication, by Rev. H. J. Patrick.  
 Dedication Ode, by Abram E. Brown.

*Tune: Hamburg.*

With joy to-day the children meet  
 Beneath the roof their fathers built;  
 With thankful hearts our song we raise  
 To Him who guided all their ways.

Here of their means they freely gave,  
 Of faith and prayer abundance had.  
 A godly man their leader was;  
 With him they fought a noble cause.

A Christian band those builders were;  
 Their deeds of valor oft were told;  
 Then, too, shall we no longer wait  
 To honor them whose work was great.

Father, our faith again inspire,  
 While we again our vows declare;  
 Accept this house, with all we bring,  
 A gift of love to Thee, our King.

Benediction, by the Pastor.

Collation and social reunion from 5 to 7 P. M.  
 Evening service at 7: Singing by Temple Quartette, of Boston; short addresses by former pastors and representatives of the founders of the church.

**PARSONAGE.**—In the days when the settlement of a minister meant a lifetime of service, "a settlement fee" was given in addition to the regular salary. This was to enable the pastor to provide his own dwelling; and not infrequently the preacher conducted the affairs of his own farm. This was the case with the four ministers settled by this town.

Brief pastorates at length rendered this custom impracticable for clergymen in general; and the difficulty of securing suitable tenements, at times, prompted several gentlemen, members of the Trinitarian Congregational Society, to purchase the estate on the corner of Main and South Streets for the use of the minister of the society. This property was held by the company for a while, but in the year 1872, after the death of Dea. Amos Hartwell, through the proposition of his widow it was given to the Trinitarian Congregational Society. The donors were—

Mrs. Louisa Hartwell . . .	\$400
Benjamin F. Hartwell . . .	400
Phineas W. Chamberlin . . .	400
Samuel Davis . . .	400
Thaddeus H. Davis . . .	250
Mrs. Mary A. Putnam . . .	50
Jonathan A. Lane . . .	25
Josiah A. Stearns . . .	25
Marcus A. Latham, Moses E. Rowe, Charles L. Wait, in equal shares.	50

## CHAPTER XXV.

*List of Professional Men—College Graduates—High School Graduates.*

**THE** clergymen and physicians have constituted the larger part of the resident professional men; and during the first century and a quarter of the town's corporate history it furnished more clergymen than it called to service here.

The legal profession was not represented here until a comparatively recent date. Those who held commissions as justices of the peace performed all ordinary legal duties, and the title of "Squire" was sufficient to command the respect and confidence of the people. Two lawyers have recently located in town. They are both grandsons of Bedford, their mothers being natives.

Elihu G. Loomis, son of Rev. Elihu Loomis and R. Augusta Lane, fitted for college at Lawrence Academy, Groton, and Phillips Academy, Andover; graduated from Amherst College in 1874; studied law with George W. Morse, of Boston, and at law school of Boston University; admitted to Suffolk County bar in 1878. (See Gen. Sec.)

George R. Blinn, son of John F. Blinn and Susan L. Dutton, was born in Charlestown, July 11, 1859; graduated from Harvard College in 1885; admitted to Suffolk County bar in February, 1887. He married, June 3, 1886, Clara Augusta Pollard, of South Newmarket, N.H.

**PHYSICIANS.**—Dr. John Fassett was the first resident physician. Shattuck says he was from Harvard; if so, he must have been a temporary resident of that town, as he was born in Billerica (probably Bedford side) in 1670 (see family sketch), and married, in 1697, Mary Hill, of Billerica. He was helpful in organizing the town, and was the first treasurer. He died Jan. 30, 1736, in the sixty-seventh year of his age.

Dr. Joseph Ballard was the second physician. He was from Lancaster, in 1767. He married Sarah Simonds, and had Sarah, Joseph, and Benjamin (the namesake of the father became

a physician). He was a faithful servant of the town, and was a delegate to the Provincial Congress, at Concord, in 1774. He died Jan. 29, 1777. His widow removed to Buckland, Franklin County, and married a physician. When Dr. Ballard located in town he was legally warned out, but persisted in remaining, and became a useful citizen. (See page 33.)

Dr. Amariah Preston was born Feb. 5, 1758. In 1777 he entered the Continental army, and served three years. In 1790 he settled in Bedford, and married Hannah Reed. He was the honored physician of the town for forty-five years, and enjoyed the confidence of the people, whom he faithfully served. He was a justice of the peace, and wrote the trio of wills by which the "Page and Hartwell Fund" was established in the town. He died in Lexington, Oct. 29, 1853, aged ninety-five years, eight months. Dr. Preston was an ardent patriot from youth; having given three years of life in the cause of liberty, he shrank from no service in town, state, or nation that became a patriot's duty. In the ninety-fifth year of his age the old love of freedom was rekindled within him through the visit to the United States of Louis Kossuth, former governor of Hungary, who fled from his country to escape the cruelty of Austria. While he was a guest at Lexington, May 7, 1852, the venerable man addressed him as follows: "Although nothing impedes the rapid progress of time, or delays the increase of age, but all pass rapidly to be numbered with the years beyond the flood, yet liberty, like a genial star, remains behind to bless the world; and when sought by the greatest of patriots, even by a Washington, although it came enveloped in garments of blood, was received with joy and gratitude, and is now enjoyed by the millions of inhabitants of the United States of America. It is my heart's desire that Heaven's blessing may rest on you, and shield your cause, till not Hungary only shall be liberated and set free from the tyranny and oppression of despots, but that liberty—true, unsophisticated liberty—with increasing splendor, shall enlighten the world."

Dr. Stephen Massy and Dr. Kendall were here, but little is known of them. They were followed by—

Dr. Bela Gardner, who was born in Littleton, was one of thirteen children of Abel, of Hingham, who was a blacksmith and a soldier of the Revolution. His grandfather was Jacob, who had ten children. Richard, of the "Mayflower," is supposed to have been the head of the family in this country. Dr. Bela was born July 28,

1796; married, April 24, 1823, Hannah, daughter of David Fitch and Hannah Proctor. She died Jan. 20, 1844 (see epitaph). He died June 27, 1844, and was buried in South Burial Ground, Boston. Dr. Gardner was self-educated, taught school when young, and studied medicine with Dr. Paul Kittridge, of Lowell. He came to Bedford about 1820, and began the practice of his profession, which he followed till death. He was a respected member of the Masonic fraternity. Of the eight children of Dr. Bela Gardner and Hannah Fitch, four died young; Mary died in 1889; William lives in Iowa, Martha in Illinois, and Samuel A. is in California. He was left an orphan when quite young, and spent some years with his aunt, Mrs. Mary Fitch Hartwell, of this town. A more than ordinary desire for an education led him to bend his energies in that direction, and through indomitable perseverance he has accomplished much in the realm of letters. He is a prominent clergyman of the Universalist denomination, was ordained at Mendota, Ill., Dec. 2, 1868, and is now settled over a society in the State of California. He has travelled in the old world, and published several valuable works.

Dr. Abel B. Adams was son of Seth Adams and Betsey Bryant, born Aug. 23, 1811, in Wayland, Mass. He received his early education in that town. He was a graduate of Harvard Medical School, and commenced practice of the medical profession in Bedford in 1837. He married, April 25, 1841, Susan Merriam, daughter of John Merriam, Esq. Their children were Edward B., born July 16, 1843, died Jan. 18, 1866; Mary F., born April 22, 1850, died March 7, 1876; Merriam, born Feb. 10, 1856, died Sept. 5, 1856; S. Augusta, born July 16, 1858, married George H. Reed, of Lexington; Alfred, born March 20, 1863, died Aug. 19, 1876. Dr. Adams was a successful physician, and an honored citizen of this town and of Lexington, to which town he removed in 1865. He died Aug. 13, 1884.

Henry Shaw, M.D., was born in Raynham, Mass., Sept. 12, 1829. He was a son of Linus H. and Louisa A. Shaw. His early education was acquired in the common schools, he completed a medical course at Harvard University in 1856, and was surgeon in the United States navy from 1862 to 1868. He began the practice of medicine at Bedford in 1868, where he continued until 1882. He left this for a position on the State Board of Charities, and since 1875 has been connected with the charities of the city of Boston. During his residence in this town the Bedford Free Public Library Corporation was organized (1876). The formation

of this excellent institution was due to his perseverance more than to the efforts of any other citizen; and the superior collection of books is largely due to his literary taste and good judgment. His thorough knowledge of parliamentary law led the people to select him to serve as moderator of their deliberative assemblies. He was a prominent worker in the Unitarian society of the town. He married, in 1856, Jane M., daughter of Hiram and Betsey Taft, of Upton. Children: Charles J., born at Sudbury, 1857, married Lizzie Gehring, has two children; Nelly L., born at Leominster, 1859, married William A. Mason, has three children; Jennie, born at Leominster, 1860; Henry E., born at Upton, 1862; Alice M., born at Framingham, 1866.

Stephen Andrew Wood, M.D., was born in Lowell, Dec. 22, 1851, and was a son of Stephen, who was born in Draut, March 3, 1818, and Louisa Ann, daughter of Aaron Andrew, M.D., of Boston, born Oct. 17, 1821. Stephen Andrew represents the fifth generation of this Wood family in this country. The line is: Robert, Solomon, Stephen, Stephen, Stephen A. His early education was somewhat broken, owing to the changes of residence of parents. It was acquired in Lowell, Westford, Dunstable, Groton, and North Chelmsford, and in Lowell again at the opening of the War of the Rebellion, and later in Nashua, N.H., where he graduated from Crosby Academy in 1869; and this was supplemented by a course at McCoy's Commercial College in Lowell. He began the study of medicine in 1872 with Herman J. Smith, M.D., city physician of Lowell at that time, and continued the course with Norman Smith, M.D., of Nashua, N.H. He entered the New York University in 1875, taking a two years' course. Being obliged to depend upon his own resources for the pursuit of his chosen profession, he accepted the position of city messenger of Nashua and messenger of county court, New Hampshire, in 1878, and remained there until December, 1883, at the same time continuing the study of medicine under the direction of George W. Courier, M.D., of Nashua. He was a justice of the peace during this stay in New Hampshire. He graduated from the Medical University of Vermont, in class of June, 1881 (of which he was an honorary member); in July was admitted a member of the New Hampshire Medical Society, and in September following to the membership of Massachusetts Medical Society. He began the practice of medicine at Bedford, Nov. 10, 1881. He became a member of Granite Lodge, I.O.O.F., and Nashowon Encampment, in 1876; of Nashua

Lodge of K. of P. in 1880, and of Rising Sun Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in 1882. He was a charter member of Bedford Commandery, U.O.G.C., in 1889. He united with the Baptist Church of Burlington, Vt., in June, 1884, and by letter with the Bedford Trinitarian Church in 1885. Stephen A. Wood married, July 3, 1872, Adrianna, daughter of Charles G. and Hannah P. Fletcher, of Groton. Child: Fannie A. L., born May 21, 1874, at Nashua, N.H.

For Dr. William R. Hayden, see "Bedford Springs" and Biographical Sketch.

For Dr. Thomas B. Hosmer, see family sketch.

COLLEGE GRADUATES.—David Lane, son of James Lane (see Epitaph and Gen. Sec.); Job Lane, 3d. son of Job Lane, Jr., Yale, 1761; Oliver Wellington Lane, son of Capt. James Lane (see Gen. Sec.); James Converse, son of Josiah Converse, 1779; Samuel Horatio Stearns, son of Rev. Samuel Stearns, 1823, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); William Augustus Stearns, son of Rev. Samuel Stearns, 1827, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); Jonathan French Stearns, son of Rev. Samuel Stearns, 1830, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); Edward Josiah Stearns, son of Elijah Stearns, Esq., 1833, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); Elijah W. Stearns, son of Elijah Stearns, Esq., 1838, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); Ebenezer Sperry Stearns, son of Rev. Samuel Stearns, 1841, Harvard (see Gen. Sec.); Alfred P. Johnson, 1861, Harvard; Ernest H. Hosmer, 1886, Harvard; Francis Warren Bacon, 1890, Harvard; Annie M. Smith, 1890, Wellesley; Bessie S. Sampson, 1890, Mount Holyoke; Edwin R. Smith, 1887, Williams.

List of those who have completed the course of study of the High School, and been awarded diplomas.

Class of 1886: Eugene D. Clark, Winfred P. Fitch.

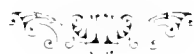
Class of 1887: Fannie M. Piper, Lizzie F. Webster, Alice B. Johnson, Lottie M. Corey, Anna W. McGovern, Eugene H. Laws.

Class of 1888: Alice M. Fitch, Melvina Lawrence.

Class of 1889: Edith S. Hartwell, Mary J. Haynes, Mabel E. Mills, Fannie L. Wood.

In 1890 the course of study was extended to three years, hence no graduates.

As we complete this section but a few weeks before the close of the school year, the graduating class of 1891 is given: Frederick A. Laws, M. Alice Piper, Jennie N. Murry, M. Lenore Flint.



## CHAPTER XXVI.

*Representatives and State Officers — Treasurer's Account of 1777 —  
Pay of Soldiers.*

BEDFORD did not seek for notoriety in the legislative halls, but did not fail of being ably represented in seasons of great moment. John Reed, Esq., who had served the town in 1776, was again elected in 1783. Hostilities had ceased in the field, the treaty of peace had been signed in Paris, and proclaimed to the people on the eighth anniversary of the battle of Concord; but questions of great importance were to be decided. The Tory element was to be dealt with. The animosity which the refugees had aroused in their former brethren and fellow citizens, for declining to take part in the struggle for independence, still actuated many. At the May meeting the town voted "to give the representative five shillings per day for his services while he attends the court." A letter was received from the town of Boston, dated April 10, 1783, relating to the return of absentees and conspirators, and the town chose a committee to instruct their representative, consisting of Dea. Stephen Davis, John Merriam, William Merriam, Lieut. Timothy Jones, Capt. Christopher Page, and Timothy Page. After an adjournment for one week, the committee reported, and the representative received his instructions. The records fail to give the language of the instructions, but the war record of the town as a whole, and of each member of the committee, leaves no place for doubt that the instructions embodied the principles for which they had fought.

The constitution provided that each town then incorporated might elect one representative, and the House of Representatives had power to impose a fine upon towns neglecting to choose. The day of election was made a festive occasion. It was the housekeeper's limit for spring renovation, and "lection cake" was an indispensable luxury of the day, and continued to be served in many homes years after the day had ceased to be of political interest.

The selectmen who signed the first election returns under the new form of government, were John Merriam, William Page, William Merriam, James Wright, Joseph Converse. Through amendments to the Constitution the political year was made to begin on the first Wednesday of January, the election having taken place on the Tuesday after the first Monday in the November previous.

The list of representatives is as follows: John Reed, 1776, 1783; John Moore, 1780; John Web-

ber, 1787; David Reed, 1805-6, 1808; William Webber, 1809, 1811, 1821, 1823, 1824, 1827, 1829; Thompson Bacon, 1812; John Merriam, 1813-14, 1816, 1818, 1830-31; Amos Hartwell, 1832-3, 1836-7; Reuben Bacon, 1834, 1839-40; William Page, 1835; Rev. Joshua Chandler, 1838; John P. Reed, 1841, 1843; Oliver R. Abbott, 1842; John W. Simonds, 1844, 1852; Amos B. Cutler, 1848; Francis Coggswell, 1851, 1853; Albert Bacon, 1854; Rev. Henry J. Patrick, 1857. The town system ended with 1857, and the district system began, since when the following citizens have been elected: Phineas W. Chamberlin, 1860; William A. Stearns, 1867; William M. Ashby, 1872; Charles A. Corey, 1881; Henry Wood, 1885; Edwin H. Blake, 1888. State Senate, Reuben Bacon, 1836.

**TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.**—The following is a copy of the treasurer's accounts for a part of the year 1777:—

Orders to Abel Bowman, Constable.		£ s. d.
March the 7th, 1777, To William Page For Services as Treasurer,		0 12 0
" " " " John Reed For Ringing the Bell,		1 2 8
" " " " Jeremiah Fitch junr. For Entertainment,		0 14 9
" " " " To Mr. Joseph Hartwell for services making Rates,		0 17 6
" " " " To Mr. John Merriam For Services making Rates,		0 12 4
April 7, 1777, To Eleazer Davis For part paying the School master,		1 10 0
May 2d, 1777, Stephen Hartwell for hiring Soldiers,		6 6 8
" " 1777, John Reed Esq. For hiring Soldiers,		15 0 0
" " " Joseph Hartwell For hiring Soldiers,		15 15 0
" " " Oliver Reed For hiring Soldiers,		15 0 0
" " " Josiah Davis For hiring Soldiers,		15 0 0
" " " Dea. Stephen Davis For hiring Soldiers,		15 0 0
April 3d, 1777, Eleazer Davis for hiring Soldiers,		7 10 0
May 23d, 1777, William Merriam For hiring Soldiers,		6 0 0
" " " William Merriam six load Wood at	6s	3 6 0
" " " at the school	36s	
" " " and paying school Master 30s		
May 23, 1777, To Joseph Converse for hiring Soldiers,		8 14 6
Mar. 7, 1777, To Mr. Job Lane For Wood to Jabez Russell,		0 5 0
June 12, 1777, To Mr. Ebenezer Page for hiring Soldiers,		7 6 6
June 16, 1777, To Mr. Joseph Hartwell for hiring Soldiers,		15 15 0
July 10, 1777, To Mr. Stephen Meeds for Hiring Soldiers,		5 0 0



	£	s.	d.
Sept. 8, 1777, To Mr. William Meriam paying woman School and boarding,	3	0	0
Orders to Timothy Johnson Jur. Constable,			
March ye 7th, 1777, To Mr. Job Lane For wood to Jabez Russell,	5	0	0
" " " " To John Webber For making Rates and for sarveses as clerk and expenses at his house,	2	7	4
" " " " To Christopher Page Jur. For Sarveses making Rates,	0	6	8
" " " " To Mr. Oliver Pollard for mending the school house windows & 4 Square of Glass,	0	3	0
April 30, 1777, For personal Sarvise at Cambridge,	1	7	4
" 7, " To Seth Salt marsh For paying School master,	1	0	0
" 15, " To Seth Salt marsh For Bottoming Ye School chair,	0	1	3
May 2, 1777, To Capt. Edward Stearns For hiring Soldiers,	8	5	0
April 11, " To Timothy Lane For hiring Soldiers,	16	3	4
July 26, 1777, To David pag For hiring Soldiers,	7	0	0
July 12th, 1777, To Saml. Lane jur. For hiring Soldiers,	8	5	0
Feb. 13, 1778, To John Webber For Hiring Soldiers,	5	0	0
" " " To James Lane Jur. For Hiring Soldiers,	8	5	0
To the Heirs of Timothy pag late of Bedford,	7	11	7
To Benjamin Lane For hiring Soldiers,	1	7	4
" Dea. Benjamin Bacon For hiring Soldiers,	15	17	0
" John Lane For Hiring Soldiers,	10	10	0
" Benjamin Hutchinson Jr.,	7	10	0
Moses Abbood For hiring Soldiers,	15	0	0
Christopher Page Jur. " "	11	5	0
Sept. 15, 1777, Zeck. Fitch For hiring Soldiers,	10	0	0
" " " Richard Wheeler " "	10	0	0
" " " Joseph Meeds " "	5	0	0
" " " Nathaniel Meriam " "	5	0	0
" " " Jeremiah Blood " "	5	0	0
" " " John Merriam " "	10	0	0
" " " Stephen Hartwell Jur. For hiring Soldiers,	8	0	0
" " " Samuel Bacon For hiring Soldiers,	8	13	4
" " " Samuel Meeds " " "	7	11	7
" " " Samuel Davis " " "	3	18	0
" " " John Lane ye 3d for personal Sarvise,	14	11	8
" " " Jeremiah Fitch Jur. For hiring Soldiers,	6	13	4
" " " James Wright For hiring Soldiers,	7	19	0
" " " William pag. For hiring Soldiers,	7	10	0

\* Killed at battle of White Plains.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

*Some Early Customs — The Pastor's Fitting — The Bockberry Pest.*

It was a custom of our ancestors to share their bounties with the minister, and cases are not infrequent in this town where the spiritual leader was remembered by parishioners in their last bequests. These acts were not regarded by the donors as altogether gratuitous, but as the just desert of the one who labored for the good of the community and received but a limited salary. They were of much help to the ministers in maintaining their families and educating their children.

Rev. Nicholas Bowes was favored with several bequests when the people were struggling to establish the necessary institutions of the town. In 1751 he received, by the will of Mrs. Susannah Dean, "ten pound Lawful money."

Rev. Samuel Stearns was often remembered in this way, and peculiarly favored in the gifts of domestic supplies. His memoranda of presents during the first year of housekeeping, published by his son, Rev. William A. Stearns, must be of interest to the descendants of the families of a century ago. It is evident that some people recognized the Jewish obligation to give a tenth of their income.

30th May, 1797. Dea. Wright, 1 cheese, 3 lbs. of butter, 3 fowls, and sundry small articles. Mr. Fassett, 1 bushel rye and a cheese. Mr. Nathaniel Page, 1 bushel rye meal and 1 bushel potatoes. Col. Jones, 4 fowls.

June 1. Mr. Solomon Lane, 1 spare rib of pork. Mr. William Page, a bushel and a half of rye meal, and the same quantity of Indian, and a bag of potatoes. Mr. Oliver Reed, 1 bushel Indian corn and a large cheese.

June 3d. Capt. Webber, 1 cheese. Mr. Eleazer Davis, 1 bushel of Indian meal. Mr. Moses Fitch, 3 lbs. butter.

June 5th. Mr. Lane, 3 codfish. Deacon Merriam, 15 lbs. of pork. Mr. Nat. Page, 1 bbl. vinegar. Mrs. Fitch, 1 doz. eggs.

June 7th. Mr. Bowers, 1 salmon, weight 11 lbs.

June 8th. Mr. Samuel Hartwell, 1 pot apple sauce, 2½ lbs. butter, and a cheese.

June 9th. Mr. Thomas Page, 1 bbl. cider.

June 13th. A roasting pig, Mrs. Abbott.

June 16th. Mrs. Oliver Reed, Jr., 2 lbs. butter. Mr. Fitch, 2 lbs. butter.

June 23d. Mrs. Lane, 1 lb. butter. Mr. John Webber, 2 qts. wine, piece loaf sugar, and a jug.

June 24th. Mr. Fassett, a large leg of veal.

June 27th. Mr. Benjamin Bacon, 3 lbs. butter. Mr. Elijah Stearns, 2 lbs. butter.

June 30th. Dea. Wright, 1 loin veal.

July 4th. Mr. David Page, 3 lbs. butter. Mrs. Fassett, a plum cake.

July 16th. Mrs. Edward and Mrs. Elijah Stearns, 2 pigs, weight 40 lbs. Mr. J. Reed, Jr., a leg of bacon.



July 26th. One cheese from the Widow Lane.

Month of August:

Mr. Thompson Bacon,  $\frac{1}{2}$  doz. pigeons. Mr. Hutchinson,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushels corn and a half cheese. Mr. Page, 1 rake. Dea. Merriam, 1 lbs. salt pork. Dea. Wright, 5 lbs. pork and some sauce. Mr. Bacon, 1 bushel rye and something, 10 lbs. Esq. Jones, 1 quarter lamb and some green sauce. Esq. —, 1 loin lamb. Mr. Fassett, roasting piece of beef. Capt. Webber, salt pork and some green sauce. Widow Merriam, 6 lbs. tallow. Mr. Hartwell, piece salt pork and 10 pigeons.

From September to Thanksgiving:

Esq. Reed, a quarter of lamb. Mr. N. Page, quarter of lamb. Esq. Jones, a leg of lamb, apples, and cabbages. Dea. Davis, 1 doz. pigeons, 1 cheese, and some apples. Mr. Benjamin Bacon, 6 lbs. beef. Widow Lane, 2 lbs. butter. Mrs. Fitch, 1 lb. butter. Mr. O. Reed, 1 quarter pork. Esq. Jones,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel onions. Mr. Samuel Hartwell, 1 bbl. cider. Dea. Davis, 1 bbl. cider and a bushel apples. Mr. Lane, 1 lb. butter. Mrs. Fitch, 2 lbs. butter. Mr. John Lane, a piece of fresh pork. Mr. David Page, 3 lbs. butter. Capt. Page, 6 lbs. salt pork. Solomon Lane, 1 lb. butter. David Page, Jr., 40 lbs. beef. Mr. Page, 3 lbs. beef. Mr. Thomas Abbott, Jr., 1 quarter lamb. Oliver Reed, 1 quarter lamb. Thomas Page, 1 quarter lamb. Esq. Reed, 1 quarter lamb. Edward Stearns, 6 lbs. beef. Mr. Fitch, 7 or 8 cabbages. Dea. Merriam, 6 lbs. of pork and a leg of lamb. Capt. Page, 8 lbs. beef and 6 lbs. butter. Dea. Wright, 5 lbs. butter and 1 dozen cabbages. Mr. John Reed, 3 lbs. butter, 8 lbs. pork, 2 doz. cabbages. Mr. Oliver Reed, Jr., 1 bbl. cider and 4 lbs. butter. Capt. Webber, 7 lbs. pork. Mr. Ball, 1 doz. cabbages.

Thanksgiving week:

Mr. Stearns, 1 bushel beets. Mr. Fassett, 5 lbs. butter, 1 cheese, and 2 doz. candles. Mr. Hartwell, some apples. Mr. Ball, 3 lbs. butter. Mr. Bowers, 1 leg pork, 15 lbs. Mr. Lane, 7 lbs. pork and 14 candles. Mr. Samuel Lane, Jr., 9 lbs. beef. Mr. Hill,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. beef. Capt. Webber, 6 lbs. butter. Capt. Page, 1 goose. Mr. Moses Fitch, 1 goose. Mr. Moses Abbott, 1 goose. Col. Jones, 10 lbs. beef. Mr. Bacon, 8 lbs. beef. Mr. Henry Abbott, 2 qts. brandy. Dea. Wright, a large sparerib.

From Thanksgiving to April:

Dea. Davis, a large hand of pork and a bag of apples. Mr. Saml. Hartwell, 1 turkey. Mr. S. Lane, 1 bushel rye meal. Mr. J. Webber,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel rye meal. Mr. Nathan Fitch,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. pork. Capt. Page,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. beef. Mr. Hutchinson, 8 lbs. beef. Mr. Fassett,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. beef. Mr. Davis,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. pork and 3 fowls. Mr. Converse and Mr. Glezen, 2 bushels rye. Esq. Reed,  $20\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. pork. Mr. Glezen, 12 lbs. pork. Mr. Wright, 10 lbs. pork. Mr. Fitch, veal, 15 lbs. Mr. O. Reed, pork. Mr. Page, a quarter of —. Mrs. Fitch, 1 lb. butter.

April to June:

Capt. Page, 1 leg pork. John Reed, Jr., 5 lbs. pork. Mr. S. Hartwell, 1 doz. sausages, a cheese, and 2 lbs. butter. Dea. Davis, 1 lb. butter, 7 lbs. pork, doz. eggs. Mr. B. Bacon, 1 lb. butter and cheese. Esq. Reed, 1 cheese. Mr. Wright, 10 lbs. pork. Stephen Lane, leg of pork. S. Hartwell, pork, 15 lbs. Moses Abbott, pork. Capt. Webber, butter, 12 veal. Esq. Reed, a day's work oxen and plough, and half a day's work of himself.

Moses Abbott, Jr., a quantity of sauce. Oliver Reed, 1 bushel rye. Wm. Page, 1 quarter of veal, 17 lbs. Mr. Wright, a sparerib of pork. Esq. Reed, 10 lbs. of pork and a calf's harslet. Esq. Reed, 1 day's work of oxen. Mr. John Reed, Jr., 1 day's work with himself and cart.

The pastor received annually from the town twenty cords of wood, the preparation of which for the fire furnished one of the merriest occasions of the year.

**BARBERRY PEST.** — It was a general belief in the provinces, about the middle of the eighteenth century, that the decline in the production of certain varieties of English grain was due to the barberry pest, and a law was enacted in 1754 for its extermination.

Every owner of land was required to clear it of the barberry bush; and the selectmen were required to clear the roads and common grounds, in order to make the extermination thorough and effectual. The law imposed quite a burden upon the farmers and a drain upon the treasury of this town, as the bush had become very common here. Scientists do not class the barberry with native plants, but it was early found in New England where the soil is conducive to its rapid propagation. Among the Lane papers is a letter from Mary Belcher to Whipple, in 1640, in which is the following: "If you can get me a few barberis & send at rowlah you will do me a kindness."

The bush soon took root again in this town, and continues to flourish, producing a crop highly prized by many.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

*Records — Town Officers — Justices of the Peace — Town Valuation of 1771 — Census Items.*

In some towns the annals are incomplete, — portions having been lost by fire or other calamities, — but in Bedford the records are continuous from the beginning of the town.

In the early years there was some laxness on the part of certain families in the returns of births, marriages and deaths, but this defect is corrected in a measure by the record kept by Rev. Nicholas Bowes. His record of baptisms often enables one to supply a deficiency in that of births kept by the clerk of the town. The almost universal custom of baptizing an infant on the Sabbath following the birth makes it possible to fill some blanks with comparative certainty. Where both church and town records fail, a gravestone often furnishes the record of a person whose life was spent in the town. The first record of the church was kept in a

book the pages of which are six inches by eight, and bound in vellum or parchment, which has become very loose, and several of the leaves containing records are missing, viz.: In the record of baptisms all between Sept. 29, 1715, and Jan. 20, 1751, also between Sept. 27, and Nov. 1, 1741, are lost.

Rev. Nathaniel Sherman, the second minister, continued the record in an alphabetical manner.

The characteristics of Rev. Joseph Penniman are seen very distinctly in his records, and they are not as reliable; but his successor, Rev. Samuel Stearns, kept a perfectly reliable record in a thoroughly systematic manner. The record of deaths kept by Rev. Nicholas Bowes shows that during the first quarter of a century there were one hundred and seventy-three deaths in all, the average for a year being seven. The largest number in any one year was twenty, in the year 1719. There were fifteen in 1750 and sixteen in 1751. (By referring to the chapter on epitaphs it will be seen that this great mortality was among the children; it covered the years when the throat distemper thwarted the skill of physicians.) The smallest number in any one year was two, in 1732; there were four in 1751.

The town records are in a good state of preservation, but still remain in the form of manuscripts, and are thus liable to be lost, as only the original copy is possessed, with the exception of the first book of births, marriages, and deaths. A copy of this has been made by the accurate hand of Mr. George Tolman, of Concord, and presented to the town.

Brevity of entries is a very general defect in early records: a mere statement of a fact becomes blind indeed after those who participated in the event have passed away. Another great defect arises from the absence of reports of committees. Records were made of cases of importance, being referred to a committee, and later the committee having reported, it was accepted, and ordered on file; but those files have doubtless been lost sight of in the attics of early clerks before a place of safety was provided. This defect is most noticeable during the years of the Revolutionary War.

It is due to the memory of Samuel Fitch, the first town clerk, to record in this connection, that his wise forethought in recording the doings of the meetings during the organization of the town has enabled us to obtain much that is of interest in those early days. The entire records will compare favorably with those of towns that we have examined during the preparation of this brief history. The student of manuscript records learns very early in his research that a great

benefit is derived from years of continuous service of the same clerk. This town has been fortunate in that respect, as will be seen by the following statement:—

TOWN CLERKS.—Samuel Fitch, 1729–31, 1733–37; John Fassett, 1732; Israel Putnam, 1738–45; John Whitmore, 1746–48; Stephen Davis, 1748–60, 1766–72, 1775; John Reed, 1761–65, 1773–75; John Webber, 1776–79, 1783–93; William Merriam, 1780–82, 1794–1804; William Webber, 1805–1829; Reuben Bacon, 1830–44; Joel Fitch, 1845 (died in service, and the year was completed by Joseph Brown, Jr.); Thomas Stiles, 1846–63; William Albert Stearns, 1864–71 (died in service);\* Charles A. Corey, 1871 (still in service).

SELECMEN, beginning with the year 1830 (as a full board consists of three, that number will be found under each year): Reuben Bacon, 1830–33; Amos Hartwell, 1830–36, 1843–47; Joel Fitch, 1839; Joseph Brown, 1831; Timothy Page, 1832–33; Albert Bacon, 1834–35, 1843–44; John P. Reed, 1834–37, 1840–42, 1845–48, 1857; Lieb Lee, 1836–38; Elbridge Bacon, 1837; Oliver R. Abbott, 1838–39; David Rice, 1838–39; Jonathan Bacon, 1839, 1845–47; Nathaniel C. Cutler, 1840–41; Michael Crosby, 1840–42; Amos B. Cutler, 1842–44, 1850–51; Thomas Stiles, 1848–56; Isaac P. Bacon, 1848–49, 1874–76, 1880; Benjamin J. Davis, 1849; Phineas W. Chamberlin, 1850–55; Charles Spaulding, 1852–56; William M. Ashby, 1856–65; William A. Stearns, 1857–65; Samuel Sage, Jr., 1858; Oliver J. Lane, 1859–65, 1868–73, 1877–78, 1881 (still in service); Henry Bacon, 1871; Thomas B. Hosmer, 1874; Aaron H. March, 1875–76; Eleazer P. Davis, 1875–76; Charles H. Clark, 1877–79; Samuel W. Huckins, 1879; Calvin Rice, 1880; William R. Hayden, 1880; Willard Ladd, 1881–82; Nathan B. Smith, 1883–90; Albert P. Sampson, 1883; Edwin H. Blake, 1884–90; Irving L. Hodgdon, 1891; Dudley Hartford, 1891.

\* Resolutions adopted by the town after the death of William A. Stearns, who died while in the position of clerk and treasurer:—

Whereas God in his mysterious providence has suddenly removed by death our friend and townsman, William A. Stearns, clerk and treasurer of the town, a citizen of unblemished and of upright character, faithful in the discharge of the various offices intrusted to him by his constituents, one who deserved and retained the confidence of his associates, —

Therefore we feel it a duty to express our appreciation of him as a kind neighbor and Christian friend, and of his valuable services in behalf of the town, committed to him, and that we deeply sympathize with his bereaved and afflicted family in their deep sorrow.

One of the very early records of the town is of a vote to allow the "Law Book" to be passed around among the different families. This book contains the first printed copy of the act of incorporation of the town of Bedford. The title-page is as follows: "The Charter Granted by their Mæjsties King William and Queen Mary to the Inhabitants of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England. — Boston in New England. Printed by B. Green. Printer to the Honourable the Lieut. Gouvernour & Council for Benjamin Eliot and sold at his shop, near the Town House in King's Street. 1726."

This volume had been lost many years, when, in 1886, it was forwarded from Chicago, Ill., to the writer of this sketch, with the following letter:—

I send to you an old book that was in the Library of Reuben Bacon, Esq. . . . How it came there does not appear, but may have been left when he (Bacon) surrendered the clerkship of the town and parish. It should be in the archives of the town. . . .

It has travelled thousands of miles, been through the "great Chicago fire," and existed while nearly five generations of the inhabitants of Bedford have been born and died.

Mrs. Hosmer, in looking over her choice keepsakes, a few days before her death, desired me to forward to you this choice relic, to be delivered to the town of her nativity and love, as a gift to its people.

I now herewith, in accordance with her request, present this volume.

MARTHA BACON HOSMER,

By her husband, JOSEPH HOSMER.  
Chicago, Jan. 1, 1886.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE. — John Reed, Elijah Stearns, Amariah Preston, Thompson Bacon, William Webber, John Merriam, Reuben Bacon, Joel Fitch, Phineas W. Chamberlin, Amos Hartwell, Thomas Stiles, Amos B. Cutler, Henry Shaw, Marcus B. Webber, Merton Simonds, Elihu G. Loomis, Albert P. Sampson, Charles A. Corey, Edwin H. Blake, Thomas B. Hosmer, Abram E. Brown, George R. Blinn.

The first birth recorded is Abigail Grover, daughter of Thomas and Abigail Grover, Nov. 30, 1729.

The first marriage was on Jan. 21, 1730 | 1: Joseph Fitch and Sarah Grimes, by Rev. Nicholas Bowes.

The first death was that of Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca Bacon, Feb. 16, 1730 | 1.

Earlier records are found, but they were copied from either Concord or Billerica records to complete family registers.

TREASURERS beginning with the year 1830: John Bacon, 1830-45; Isaac P. Bacon, 1846-50, 1868-69; Phineas W. Chamberlin, 1851-67;

William A. Stearns, 1870-71 (died in service); Albert Bacon, 1871-75; Charles A. Corey, 1876 (still in office).

MODERATORS OF TOWN MEETINGS, for fifty years, ending with January, 1890: Amos Hartwell, 3; Jonathan Bacon, 6; George Simonds, 32; George W. Woodward, 9; John Bacon, 1; John W. Simonds, 30; Oliver W. Lane, 1; P. W. Chamberlin, 14; Elijah W. Stearns, 2; W. H. Ropes, 1; Charles Spaulding, 6; Reuben Bacon, Esq., 1; Reuben Bacon, Jr., 3; Francis Coggs-well, 1; John P. Reed, 1; Samuel Sage, Jr., 16; Isaac L. Watts, 4; George W. Webster, 1; Joseph Hosmer, 1; Oliver J. Lane, 41; Amos B. Cutler, 2; Cryus Page, 2; Marcus B. Webber, 5; Edward T. Tuten, 1; Thomas Stiles, 1; Henry Shaw, 16; Elihu G. Loomis, 3; Thomas B. Hosmer, 1.

The following abstract of the inventory of taxable property and of ratable polls of the year 1771 is suggestive of the changes of time:—

Ratable polls . . . . .	125
Not ratable . . . . .	3
Dwelling houses and shops adjoining . . . . .	73
Outbuildings, shops and Tan houses . . . . .	1
Mills. 2 grist and 2 saw mills . . . . .	4
Annual worth of the whole real estate, deducting only annual repairs . . . . .	£684 2s. 6d.
Servants for life between 14 and 45 years of age . . . . .	7
Stock in trade, in goods, wares and mer- chandise paid for or not . . . . .	£68 0s. 0d.
Money at interest more than is paid inter- est for . . . . .	£2179 2s. 8d.
Horses & mares three years old and upwards . . . . .	76
Oxen four years old and upwards . . . . .	144
Cows three years old and upwards . . . . .	415
Goats & Sheep 1 year old . . . . .	463
Swine 1 year old . . . . .	149
Aeres of pasturage . . . . .	1632½
Number of cows kept on pasturage with other feed . . . . .	457
Aeres of tillage . . . . .	370
Bushels of grain & corn of all sorts, the same will produce . . . . .	6536
Barrels of Cider, averaged . . . . .	618
Aeres of English and upland mowing . . . . .	335½
Tons of hay cut on same . . . . .	177
Aeres of fresh meadow . . . . .	1162
Tons of hay cut on same . . . . .	735½

In 1871, a century later, the assessed value of real estate was \$496,079; personal, \$91,258. Valuation of 1890, real estate, \$758,929; personal, \$119,307.

Items from the United States census of 1890:

Inhabitants . . . . .	1,092
Between 80 and 90 years . . . . .	21
" 70 " 80 " . . . . .	51
" 60 " 70 " . . . . .	83
" 50 " 60 " . . . . .	100
" 40 " 50 " . . . . .	104

Soldiers' widows . . . . .	7
Veterans of Civil War . . . . .	31
Farms . . . . .	95
Industries . . . . .	15
Dwellings . . . . .	230
Families . . . . .	239

## CHAPTER XXIX.

*Individual Military Service in Indian Wars and the Revolution—  
Roster of Officers and Privates—Effect to Local Memorial.*

1675, King Philip's War: Job Lane.

1688 to 1698, King William's War: Lieut. John Wilson, Lieut. John Lane.

1703 to 1713, Queen Anne's War: Capt. John Lane, Nathaniel Bacon, Samuel Fitch, Josiah Bacon, Trumpeter, Nathaniel Page, Nathaniel Bacon, John Colburn, Josiah Fassett, Benjamin Bacon, Jonathan Bacon, Joseph Bacon, Job Lane.

1723 and 1724, Indian outbreak: Josiah Davis, killed; Eleazer Davis, wounded; Hugh Maxwell.

1745 to 1748, King George's War: Lieut. John Lane, Hugh Maxwell, Thompson Maxwell, Lieut. Lane was with Sir William Pepperell, who sailed from Boston, March 24, 1745, for the capture of Louisburg.

1754 to 1763, last French and Indian War: Ebenezer Page, in the expedition to the eastward; Ensign Josiah Fassett, at the relief of Fort Williams; Sergeant Page; Nathaniel Merriam, died at Lake George, Sept. 15, 1758; John Abbott, died at Lake George, Nov. 2, 1756.

Thompson Maxwell was one of Rogers' Rangers.

Rev. Nicholas Bowes was chaplain; Hugh Maxwell, credited to Lexington (the home of his wife).

The following is the list of those who received abatements of their "town and highway rates," in 1763, in recognition of services rendered in the troubles with the French: Hugh Maxwell, Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., Jonas Wheeler, John Danforth, Stephen Mead, Abraham Taylor, Samuel Kidder, Widow Brown (for her husband), James Wheeler, Adron Wood, Zachariah Fitch, Eben Taylor, Benjamin Kidder.

Benjamin Kidder is supposed to have been the same person who was with Lovewell, in 1725, at Pigwacket, "the most fierce and obstinate battle of Indian warfare." He was in David Melvin's company, as Sergeant, and one of twenty-six who went for the reduction of Louisburg, and through the woods to Crown Point.

If more has been written of those who belonged to the Billerica side, it is because there were more from that part of the town who had military titles: hence they secured a more complete record. There was no lack of patriotism and courage on the Concord side. Five-sixths of those whose rates were abated for service in the year 1762 were from that side of the town; and the Davises, who were full of military zeal in the early wars, belonged upon that side. Eleazer 3rd was commissioned a lieutenant in the opening of the Revolution.

In the Concord records it is seen that men of this location, Bedford, were active in shaking off the oppression of Sir Edmund Andros, in 1689. Lieut. Joseph French was a selectman of that year, and when at the age of eighty years led in forming this town. His name stands at the head of the founders of the church, in 1730.\*

REVOLUTION.—The men who turned out in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775, are known as the "Lexington Alarm List."

Certain traditions in regard to the commanding officers of both minute men and militia have been accepted as facts and recorded by local historians, but are not substantiated by official returns; hence the documents filed in the archives of the State are copied more fully than would otherwise be done in this connection.

We have not a complete record of the military organization of the town at the opening of the Revolution, but have reason to believe that the companies credited with service on April 19, 1775, were very nearly full, and that the following lists represent the militia roll of that time:

The account of the time that each man who belonged to the Minute Men of the Town of Bedford spent at Cambridge in defence of the Country together with the nineteenth of April last, and also of their travel reckoned from the middle of the town according to the minds of the Company.

1st, Lieut. Moses Abbott.	Drummer Oliver Bacon.
2nd " Timothy Jones.	Peter Jonas Welch.
Sargt. Christopher Page.	Private, Jabez Russell.
" Seth Saultmash.	Jonas Gleason.
" Ebenezer Fitch.	Nathan Bacon.
" Asa Fassett.	Nathaniel Page, Jr.
Privates, Joseph Meads, Jr.	Moses Fitch.
Reuben Bacon.	David Bacon.

\* The Commonwealth of Massachusetts managed its own affairs in its own way from its start, in 1629 to 1684. Their charter was annulled by Charles II., in 1684, and Sir Edmund Andros was sent over, who ruled with despotic power. He was seized and thrust into jail, in 1689. In 1693, under William and Mary, Massachusetts had a new charter, by which the Legislature was in the control of the people, but the Governor was appointed by the King.

Elmud Bacon,	David Reed,
Timothy Johnson,	Nathan Bowman,
Ephraim Smith,	Asa Daren,
Obediah Johnson,	Benjamin Winslip,
William Merriam,	

This is a true attested account from Each one before me,

MOSES ABBOTT.

BEDFORD, March 13, 1776.

#### COLONY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

March 14, 1776.

Moses Abbott made solemn oath that this Roll, by him subscribed, is just and true in all its parts.

Before MOSES GILL, Justice Peace.

Throu. the Colony.

IN COUNCIL, March 14, 1776.

Read and allowed and ordered that a warrant be drawn on Ye Treasury for 21*l*. 4*s*. 7*d*., in full for this roll.

To the above list of "Minute Men" thirty-six miles of travel are credited, and their time of service ranges from four to thirteen days. This roll was made up by Moses Abbott, the next in command to Captain Jonathan Wilson, who was killed in the attack upon the retreating British near Merriam's Corner, April 19, 1775. He had bravely led his men through the memorable scenes of the early hours of the day, been foremost in the chase across the Great Fields to intercept the enemy, and fell dead in the severe battle of the afternoon. It is to be regretted that no mention is made on this roll of his service and sacrifice. This unfortunate omission can be accounted for in two ways. First, it was some months before this roll was filed and allowed; and, second, because Capt. Jonathan Wilson, like all the officers of the Minute Men, had not been commissioned. The report of the town treasurer for 1775 allows Moses Abbott, for six days' training with twenty-five Minute Men, eight pounds two shillings. The above list numbers twenty-five without the fallen captain, proving the truth of a tradition, "that undrilled citizens joined the ranks."

The company of militia belonging to the seventh regiment was reported by the commanding officer as follows:—

The account of Capt. John Moore, commander of the Militia Company of Bedford, giving the miles of travel and time spent in the Service and Defence of the Colony, on and directly after the alarm on the nineteenth day of April last, Exhibiting in Distinct Columns against each man's name the number of miles he travelled, The allowance thereof, The number of Days he was in that Service and the wages thereof, with the sum total of the whole, agreeable to the Resolve of the Honl. Council published in the news-paper, and a vacant column for Deduction if any shall be to be made.

	Miles. Ds.		Miles. Ds.
Captain John Moore	40 10	Private Ziba Lane	33 9
1st. Lieut. John Merriam	40 8	" Sampson Hardy	33 9
2d. Lieut. Eleazer Davis	40 9	" Lemmel Blanchard	37 10
Sergeant Joseph Convers	24 4	" Edward Stearns	26 14
" James Wright	33 3	" Josiah Davis	36 4
" Jeremiah Fitch Jr.	33 4	" Simeon Parker †	14
Fifer David Lane	33 11	" Joseph Ross †	9
Private James Lane Jr.	34.33 12	" Jabez Carter	11 9
" Oliver Reed Jr.	35 7	" John Lane	26 6
" Samuel Lane	33 9	" Joseph Hartwell	26 9
" Israel Putnam Jr.	30 10	" Thomas Bacon	35 6
" Samuel Bacon	26 4	" John Fitch	33 4
" Samuel Davis	26 3	" Samuel Lane Jr.	33 3
" Ebenezer Page	33 2	" John Lane Jr.	10 1
" Thaddeus Davis	30 9	" Solomon Lane	33 12
" Edward Stearns	40 3	" Matthew Pollard	33 6
" Solomon Stearns *	40 18	" Stephen Lane	33 7
" William Page	28 5	" Job Lane Jr. ‡	10 1
" William Maxwell	38 6	" Oliver Pollard Jr.	33 9
" Samuel Meeds	32 15	" Jeremiah Willard	30 2
" Josiah Upton	38 8	" John Reed	26 4
" Samuel Merriam	30 10	" Ebenezer Johnson †	18
" Abel Bowman	37 3	" Machias Allen †	18
" David Fitch	26 2	" Abraham Merriam	3
" Abigail Bacon	36 13	" Timothy Page	20 2

Colony of Massachusetts Bay April 3, 1776 Captain John Moore, above mentioned, made solemn oath to the truth of the above roll.

The fragmentary rolls in the archives of the state, and the imperfect records of the time, make it impossible to give a complete list of the Bedford men who served in the Continental army during the Revolution. The best list that we have been able to obtain is the following, reported May 15, 1775. It includes the members of the companies given above, with the exception of the killed and wounded and those who have died of disease, together with the following:—

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Jeremiah Blood,  | (5) Samuel Crosby,   |
| (2) Solomon Bacon,   | (6) David Dutton,    |
| (3) John Burgess,    | (7) Reuben Durant,   |
| (4) Ebenezer Bowman, | Matthew Fitch,       |
| Samuel Fletcher,     | Benjamin Hutchinson, |
| John Hartwell,       | Timothy Johnson,     |
| Samuel Hartwell,     | Timothy Lane,        |
| Job Lane,            | Stephen Mead,        |
| Israel Putnam,       | David Page,          |
| Thomas Page,         | Oliver Reed,         |
| Daniel Jones,        | Benjamin Ross,       |
| James Simons,        | Nathan Smith.        |

The committee report that all are then enlisted (May 15, 1775), with the exception of seven indicated by figures, and consequently participated in the siege of Boston.

Hugh Maxwell and Thompson Maxwell were in the battle of Bunker Hill (credited to other towns). While it is evident that other Bedford men were engaged in that bloody struggle, it is impossible to give the names.

1775: In the second campaign of twelve

\* Died May 18, 1775.

† Joined the Continental army.

‡ Wounded at Concord, April 19, 1775.

months we find Abraham Merriam, and in Capt. Benjamin Walker's company of the twenty-seventh regiment:—

2d Lieut. Ebenezer Fitch,	Private Jabez Carter.
Sergeant Asa Fassett,	" Asa Duren.
Private Amos Goodell,	" Simon Parker.
" Malachi Allen,	" Benjamin Winship.

Fourth campaign, July, 1775, to Ticonderoga:

Solomon Kemp.

Fifth campaign, to Ticonderoga:—

William Murry,	John Halley,
Ezekiel Kilpatrick.	

Sixth campaign, to Dorchester, July, 1776 (one from Bedford, two hired):—

Samuel Parkhurst,	Moses Esterbrooks,
Benjamin Farmer.	

Seventh campaign, to White Plains, N. Y., 1776 (in Capt. Samuel Fay's company, Lieut. Col. Webb's regiment, three months twenty-two days in service):—

Joseph Merriam,	Israel Blood,
Nathaniel Wyman,	Thomas Cleverly,
Moses Abbott,	Moses Fitch, wounded.
Sergeant Timothy Page,	killed.

1777, May, two months' campaign: Five men to Rhode Island:—

William Dexter,	Cambridge Moore,
John Abbott,	Amos Whitmore,
Nehemiah Wyman.	

August 21, three and one-half months: Eight men to Bennington.

Jonas Eaton killed, July 6, 1777. He was in Capt. John Russell's company.

September, thirty days' campaign: Eight men "to take and guard the troops."

1778, February, three months' campaign: Five men with Captain Farmer.

April 20, nine months's campaign: Eight men with Captain Moore at Cambridge:—

Waldron Stone,	Ralph Emery,
Gideon Sanderson,	William Marry,
John Stevens.	

John Reed to Rhode Island.

1779: Two men to Rhode Island: second campaign, two men to Rhode Island.

Three men to North River:—

Abraham Merriam,	William Jones,
William Freeman.	

Two men to Boston.

One and one-third months: Six men to Claverick.

1780, June, six months' campaign, seven men to North River:—

John Johnson,	Cambridge Moore,
Rufus Johnson,	Jonas Duren,
Nathan Merrill,	Cesar Prescott,
Jonas Bacon.	

Three months' campaign, to Rhode Island, eight men:—

Joshua Holt,	Jonathan Wilson, Jr.,
John Webber,	Andrew Hall,
Ebenezer Hardy,	Isaac Simonds,
Amos Bemis,	Israel Mead Blood.

1781:—

Cambridge Moore,	Cesar Prescott,
Joseph Ross.	

June, six men, to join General Washington, at West Point:—

Nehemiah Wyman,	Timothy Crosby,
Moses Abbott,	Joseph Merriam,
Stephen Syms,	Israel Mead Blood.

1782, August 29, six months to Cambridge:—

John Johnson,	Jonas During,
Rufus Johnson,	Jonas Bacon,
Nathan Morrill,	Cambridge Moore,
Charles Walker.	

Men from Bedford who served for three years or the war.

Called in 1777:—

Private Joseph Davidson,	Private Dangle McClary,
" John Binger,	" Samuel Penny,
" Derby Arnalls,	" Timothy Richardson,
" Jonathan Evens,	" Timothy Sullivan,
" Joseph Fassett,	" William Tufts,
" Alexander Lucom,	" Israel Williams,
Private Moses Craig (hired from Hopkinton).	

Called in 1779:—

William Jones,	William Freeman.
----------------	------------------

Called in 1780:—

Joseph Davidson,	James Ingles,
Henry Kneeland,	John Williams.

Called in 1782:—

William Grant,	Zephaniah Williams.
Cesar Jones.	

First regiment, Continental army:—

Daniel Brodbury, served 48 months.	
John Pickett,	" 48 "
James Uran,	" 48 "
Jonathan Dutton,	" 27 "
Heith Pleasant,	" 12 "

Summary of the killed, wounded, and those who died from disease, as far as known:—

Jonathan Wilson, captain of Minute Men.

killed April 19, 1775, at Concord. "A brave and meritorious officer" (Shattuck).

Job Lane, Jr., wounded at Concord, April 19, 1775 (in service but one day).

Solomon Stearns, with his father, Edward Stearns, in Concord fight; joined the army at Cambridge on the following day, and there contracted a disease, which terminated his young life, May 18, 1775, in the nineteenth year of his age. He was as truly a sacrifice in the cause of liberty as though he had fallen at Lexington or Concord.

Nathaniel Merriam, killed at White Plains, N.Y., Oct. 28, 1776.

Sergt. Timothy Page, killed at White Plains, N.Y., Oct. 28, 1776.

Moses Fitch, wounded at White Plains, N.Y., Oct. 28, 1776.

James Eaton, killed July 6, 1777. He was in Capt. John Russell's company, commanded by Col. Bradford, Esq.

Reuben Bacon was at Concord, April 19, 1775; went into camp at Cambridge, and joined the regular army. He contracted a disease there, and died, May 15, 1775, at the age of seventeen years three months eleven days. His death occurred on the day that the first enrollment was made, proving that he died away from home.

Middlesex is denominated the monumental county, and memorial shafts are seen in many towns; but the brave deeds of the people of Bedford in the early wars are commemorated only through the gratitude of posterity.

In 1857, Reuben Bacon, Esq., presented an order, which was adopted by the town, to petition the Legislature for aid to erect a monument to Capt. Jonathan Wilson, killed at Concord, April 19, 1775. No favorable results followed. Francis Coggswell, representative to the General Court for that year, was one of the committee. The others were Reuben Bacon, Jonathan Bacon, and Cyrus Page.

"It is never too late to repair an injury or pay a debt of gratitude."

## CHAPTER XXX.

*Civil War, 1861-65 - Individual Service.*

Our country's welfare is our first concern,

And who promotes that best, best proves his duty.

### HAVARD'S REG'LS.

	Date of Enlistment.	Co. & Regt.	Enl. For.
George W. Webster,	May 25, 1861,	D, 2d,	3 yrs.
Philip Moore,	Aug. 5, 1862,	D, 5th,	3 yrs.
Temporary resident			
Timothy Hurly,	May 25, 1861,		3 yrs.

	Date of Enlistment.	Co. & Regt.	Enl. For.
Charles Cowdry,	June 26, 1861,	E, 12th,	3 yrs.
Died in service in 1864.			
William A. Edwards,	June 26, 1861,	E, 12th,	3 yrs.
Served full term.			
John F. Gragg,	June 26, 1861,	E, 12th,	3 yrs.
Walter F. Blake,	June 26, 1861,	E, 12th,	3 yrs.
Wounded at Fredericksburg; pensioned for loss of limb, not amputated.			
John Albert Pierce,	July 11, 1861,	D, 12th,	3 yrs.
Joseph Pierce,	July 11, 1861,		3 yrs.
Marcus R. Johnson,	Aug. 7, 1861,	B, 15th,	3 yrs.
Passed through many hard battles, and escaped injury.			
Isaiah W. Foss,	Aug. 5, 1861,		3 yrs.
John F. Gleason,	Aug. 10, 1861,	F, 22d,	3 yrs.
Transferred to war department, at Washington, October, 1863; enlisted in the general service, Aug. 10, 1864; discharged, Feb. 9, 1865; time of service, 4½ years.			
Eliab S. Wilkins,		1st Cav.	
Lyman Center,	Aug. 15, 1861,	F, 16th,	
Samuel W. Stearns,	Oct. 1, 1861,	B, 15th,	3 yrs.
See sketch on page 69.			
O. V. Cone,	Oct. 1, 1861,	N.Y. Bat.	3 yrs.
Killed at second Bull Run.			
Charles W. Lunt,	Oct. 5, 1861,	F, 22d,	3 yrs.
See sketch on page 69.			
Robert W. Edwards,	Oct. 18, 1861,	E, 26th,	3 yrs.
Served full time.			
Cyrus Page,	Oct. 18, 1861,	E, 26th,	3 yrs.
Henry Hosmer,	Jan. 20, 1862,	6th Bat.	3 yrs.
Enlisted as artificer, and was in the battle that resulted in the capture of New Orleans, where he died of disease.			
Patrick A. McDonough,	Jan. 20, 1862,	47th,	3 yrs.
Deserted, Nov. 9, 1862.			
Robert Flinn,	Jan. 23, 1862,	1st,	3 yrs.
Groverner A. Page,	Aug. 5, 1862,	D, 33d,	3 yrs.
Was at battle of Missionary Ridge, where he lost left arm, October, 1863; discharged, April 6, 1864.			
John Williams,	Aug. 5, 1862,	D, 33d,	3 yrs.
Jonathan Albert Perry,	Aug. 5, 1862,	D, 33d,	3 yrs.
Peter Doyel,	Aug. 12, 1862,	I, 22d,	3 yrs.
George Goodwin,	Aug. 15, 1862,	F, 22d,	3 yrs.
Wounded, June 4, 1864, at battle of Cold Harbor, Va.; discharged, Oct. 17, 1864.			
Martin Bird,	Aug. 12, 1862,	29th,	3 yrs.
Daniel H. Batters,	Sept. 9, 1862,	Sharpshooters.	
George H. Barker,	Sept. 12, 1862,	D, 44th,	9 ms.
Alfred Johnson,	Sept. 12, 1862,	F, 44th,	9 ms.
John Page,	Sept. 12, 1862,	D, 44th,	9 ms.
Edward F. Webber,	Sept. 12, 1862,	F, 44th,	9 ms.
Harry Nourse,	Sept. 12, 1862,	D, 44th,	9 ms.
Corp. John F. Mansfield,	Oct. 5, 1862,	D, 33d,	3 yrs.
Served full time.			
George A. Mansfield,	Oct. 5, 1862,	D, 33d,	3 yrs.
Discharged March 12, 1863, for disability.			
Elbridge Jones,	Sept. 26, 1862,	B, 45th,	9 ms.
Isaac L. Watts,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Disabled.			
John Isaacs,	Oct. 16, 1862,	D, 16th,	3 yrs.
Thomas Isaacs,	Oct. 16, 1862,	D, 16th,	3 yrs.
Died in service in 1863.			
Charles H. Johnson,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Thomas W. Hill,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Charles W. Webber,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Emerson B. Cutler,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Gaton O. Wood,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
James Munroe,	Oct. 15, 1862,	G, 47th,	9 ms.
Died in 1863, from disease contracted in the service.			



	Date of Enlistment, Co. & Reg't.	Enl. Corp.
William A. Houghton,	Dec. 8, 1863, 1st H.A.	3 yrs.
Killed at North Anna River, Va., by the bursting of a shell.		
Edward Merritt,	Dec. 8, 1863, 2d H.A.	3 yrs.
Augustus F. Davis,	Jan. 6, 1864, 1st Cav.	3 yrs.
Discharged, July 18, 1865.		
Edwin M. Brooks,	July 16, 1864,*	D, 6th, 100 ds.
John H. Brown,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Robert C. Bird,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Frederick Davis,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Albert L. Dutton,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
William F. Frost,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Joseph A. Goodwin,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Had served as captain's boy in Company C, Forty-fourth Regiment, before this campaign.		
Samuel L. Lane,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Jonas E. Munroe,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Harry Nourse,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Served nine months in Company D, Forty-fourth Regiment.		
Charles E. Robinson,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Samuel Sage,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
See family record.		
Thomas S. Stone,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Charles W. Webber,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Served nine months previously.		
Edwin F. Webber,	July 16, 1864,	D, 6th, 100 ds.
Served nine months previously.		
Thomas Welch,	April 8, 1864,	20th, 3 yrs.
Thomas Walter,	April 8, 1864,	20th, 3 yrs.
Edward Kippler,	April 8, 1864,	20th, 3 yrs.
James Donley,	April 8, 1864,	20th, 3 yrs.
Charles Nelson,*	April 8, 1864,	28th, 3 yrs.
Warren H. Holbrook,	Aug. 20, 1864,	36th, 3 yrs.
Died in 1864 in service.		
Daniel H. Miller,	Aug. 25, 1864,	6th Bat. 3 yrs.
Discharged, for disability, Sept. 3, 1864.		
Abraham T. Taylor,	Aug. 25, 1864,	32d, 3 yrs.
Joshua B. Thompson,	Aug. 26, 1864,	2d Cav. 1 yr.
George A. Butters,	Aug. 27, 1864,	2d Cav. 1 yr.
Joel A. Mansfield,	Aug. 27, 1864,	2d Cav. 1 yr.
William A. Edwards,	Dec. 20, 1864,	
Had previously served three years.		
Joshua Atwood,	1864,	
Drafted, entered the service, and died the same year.		
Thomas E. Hayes,	Feb. 15, 1865, 1st Bat. H.A.	1 yr.
Owen Coleman,	Feb. 15, 1865,	
Joseph Baylow,		
William Kenrick,		
William Ross,		
Leonard Russell,		

Samuel W. Stearns was a member of a company of state militia of Fitchburg which enlisted and entered the service as Company B, Fifteenth Regiment, when the war broke out. Being under eighteen years of age, he went as captain's boy. He served in this capacity six months, when, having obtained the requisite age, he enlisted as a private, and was soon made corporal. He was in the hospital at Portsmouth

Grove, R.I., for a season, suffering from disease contracted during service under General McClellan in the Peninsula campaign. He joined his regiment in camp, August 28, 1863, and in the following October received a mortal wound in the head during the engagement at Bristoe Station, Va., from which he died October 11. He was hastily buried with his comrades near where he fell, and in the following spring was disinterred and brought to Bedford, where he rests in a patriot's grave. A comrade wrote of his bravery during the battle of White Oak Swamp thus: "Samuel stood like a little veteran, while some men in the regiment flinched under the terrible fire we received."

Charles W. Lunt was mustered into the service as corporal, at Lynnfield, Oct. 5, 1861. His term of service covered two years and seven months, and included many of the most severe experiences of the war. He was engaged in the following battles: Yorktown, Williamsburg, Hanover Court House, Gaines Mill (was wounded in the chin in this engagement, and soon promoted to sergeant), Fair Oaks, Savage Station, Malvern Hill, Gettysburg, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Rappahannock Court House, Wilderness, Laurel Hill, and Spottsylvania, where he was wounded in the thigh, and suffered amputation of the leg. He died in an ambulance train en route for Washington, D.C., May 11, 1861, at the age of thirty-one years. He was buried with thirteen others at Belle Plain, and afterwards reinterred in the National Cemetery at Petersburg. His wish, often expressed, was: "If I die on the field of battle, let me be buried with my comrades." The death of the soldier's father had called him home on a furlough in the spring of 1861, and his return to the army was soon followed by severe battles, in one of which he received the mortal wound. The testimony of his comrades shows him to have been a brave soldier. A letter from Hon. Henry Wilson, of the United States Senate, received one month before the death of Sergeant Lunt, has the following: "He is a sergeant in Company F, and a good soldier, who has always sustained an excellent character." His name is seen on the soldiers' monument erected by the ladies of Bedford, and the "Lunt Memorial," a window in the church where he worshipped, keeps his name and that of his parents in the minds of the people of his native town.

"Give me the death of those,  
Who for their country die;  
And, oh! be mine like their repose,  
When cold and low they lie.

\* The one hundred days men were mustered in, July 16, 1864, at Camp Meigs, Readville, Mass., by Capt. George Gibson.  
Hired from out of town.  
State at large.

Their loveliest mother earth  
Enshrines the fallen brave;  
In her sweet lap who gave them birth  
They find their tranquil grave."

NAVAL SERVICE. — William F. Gragg, entered the service, August, 1862, as surgeon's steward, on the "Housatonic," which was destroyed by torpedoes, February, 1864; was then in service on the "Circassian"; died at home, Dec. 24, 1864, having served about eighteen years in the United States navy.

William Williams, entered the service as blacksmith, on the "Fearnot."

J. Edson Farnsworth, Jr., entered the service as surgeon's steward, on the "Circassian."

Charles E. Hosmer, entered the service, June, 1864, as surgeon's steward, on the "Santiago de Cuba"; was promoted to assistant surgeon, and transferred to the Mississippi squadron, on the "St. Clair"; discharged Oct. 13, 1865. He was in the North Atlantic blockading squadron at the two battles of Fort Fisher, Dec. 24 and 25, 1864, and Jan. 14 and 15, 1865.

Albert P. Sampson was commissioned as master's mate, in 1862; was in the Gulf squadron, under Admiral Farragut; was promoted to an ensign in 1863, and received an honorable discharge at the close of the war.

Citizens of Bedford credited elsewhere who died in the service, and are honored by their native town or adopted home: —

Albert L. Butler was born in Leominster, March 6, 1832, and moved to Bedford when an infant. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Massachusetts Forty-fourth Regiment, from Cambridge, where he was clerk of the police court. He was in camp at Readville from August 29 to October 22, when the regiment sailed for North Carolina, reaching New Berne, October 26. The regiment started on what is called the Goldsboro expedition, December 11. In a skirmish at Whitehall he was wounded, December 16, and died in an ambulance, Dec. 19, 1862. His remains were buried at New Berne, N.C., December 22, and later disinterred and brought to Bedford, where they were finally laid.

Clark C. Cutler entered the service as a member of Company G, Forty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, and died before being ordered to the field, Oct. 25, 1862.

Charles W. Goodwin enlisted at East Cambridge, at the first call for men, in Company A, Massachusetts Sixteenth Regiment; re-enlisted July, 1861; was wounded at the second battle of Bull Run, August 27, 1862, and died Septem-

ber 5, from the wounds, at the age of nineteen years. Epitaph:

"Sleep on, dear Charlie, take thy rest;  
No more shall war's tumultuous sound  
Disturb thy calm and pulseless breast,  
Nor glittering sword with thee be found."

John Byron.

Charles A. Saunders died of disease in the hospital at New Orleans, August 24, 1864.

Memorial hymn, by Josiah A. Stearns, A.M., Ph.D.: —

[*"Home Again."*]

Wake the heart, wake the voice,  
Floral honors bring;  
And here for every soldier boy  
Let grateful anthems ring:  
And, oh, their brave heroic deeds  
Shall our rejoicing be,  
For they have won a martyr's crown,  
And saved our country free:  
Wake the heart, wake the voice,  
Floral honors bring:  
And here for every soldier boy  
Let grateful anthems ring.

Father's love, sisters' tear,  
Sleepless mother's prayer,  
With lofty zeal inspired their soul  
The foeman's wrath to dare:  
And now they sleep so peaceful here,  
Be loving garlands spread  
To sweetly deck the hero's couch  
And crown his honored head.  
Father's love, sisters' tear,  
Sleepless mother's prayer,  
With lofty zeal inspired their soul  
The foeman's wrath to dare.

God of peace, God of war,  
God of love divine,  
Oh, spread thy ever sheltering wings  
Above the soldier's shrine:  
And long shall pilgrims hither come  
And tell the reason why  
We 'grave for them on victor's roll  
A name to never die.  
God of peace, God of war,  
God of love divine,  
Oh, spread thy ever sheltering wings  
Above the soldier's shrine.

Fare ye well, fare ye well,  
Rest, ye soldiers true,  
And ever more shall grateful men  
Attest their love for you:  
And, wildly clanking broken chains,  
The dusky millions free,  
With hands upraised to God shall pray,  
On you his glory be.  
Fare ye well, fare ye well,  
Rest, ye soldiers true,  
And evermore shall grateful men  
Attest their love for you.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

*I Bedford Woman's Experiences*

BEDFORD, A. MASS., Jan. 1, 1891.  
MR. ABRAHAM E. BROWN.

Dear Sir, — Your letter is before me asking for some account of my army life in Washington. For two reasons, I feel that I should comply with your request. First, the time has already come when every incident of the war, connected with any one, however humble, has its value.

Second, so much sympathy and aid was given me in my sorrowful experience by Bedford people, that it seems fit that I should make mention of their "loving kindness."

In my husband's note book, I find the following: "Tues., July 22, 1861. Chas. Webber and self went to Lowell; enlisted in Co. D., 6th Regt., Capt. Hart. Capt. H. came to Bedford in p.m. and enlisted others." "Thurs., July 14. Went to camp to-day. S. Sage, C. W. Webber, S. Lane, J. E. Monroe, E. Brooks, J. Brown, F. Robinson, T. Stone, W. Frost, H. Nourse, A. Dutton, F. Davis, G. Butters, F. Stearns."

"Friday, 15th. E. Webber and J. Goodwin came in to-day. Stearns goes home, anxious to enlist, but does not pass the required measurement; Lieut. offers to take him as waiter. Tommy Stone increased the circumference of his chest by placing his tin dinner plate within his blouse. Companies come in fast, one or two mustered to-day." "Wed., 20th. At 1 p.m. started for Washington, *of Prov. and Stonington*; steamboat to N.Y. City." "Thurs., 21st. From N.Y. about 9 p.m. by boat to Amboy, through between Staten Island and Jersey, thence across by rail to Camden and Philadelphia." Having reached camp, Mr. Sage was assigned to hospital duty; previous to this he had assisted Captain Hart as company clerk. I find this among my papers: "Head Quarters, 6th Reg't. Guard will pass Private Sage (hospital nurse) to quarters and return at all times till countermanded. W. Burnham, Surg., July, '61."

This is his last entry, short, but explicit. "Mon., July 25. Caved in Sunday night, sick. Sick Monday." Mr. Sage was the only one of the "hundred days men" from Bedford who was in a hospital more than a few days at a time. From his last entry it will be seen that he was under a physician's care four days after reaching the camp of the 6th Regiment, and so remained until his term expired.

On the morning of August 15, following, my neighbor, Mrs. Jonas Monroe, came into my home with an open letter in her hand, and — in that

motherly way ever so characteristic of her — said, "I've just had a letter from John which he wishes me to read to you." It stated that my husband was growing worse, was suffering from great depression of spirits, caused by his disease, was lying on a board, with his army blanket for a bed, that their own hospital was just done, and he would soon be in an army cot; also that the surgeons of the 6th, Drs. Burnham and Bass of Lowell, had given their consent to my coming to him.

My little daughter Mary, seventeen months old, that had never been away from me, was taken over to grandmother Sage's, to be under "Auntie Sage's" care for nearly two months; at 3 p.m., with Mr. Stiles, who wished to see his nephew, Tommy Stone, I was on my way to Washington. Our minister, who will ever have a warm place in the hearts of many Bedford people, Rev. William J. Batt, came to the stage door, and extending his hand, said, "My prayers and sympathies are with you and yours."

One incident of my journey was the novel way in which I crossed the Susquehanna River at Havre de Grace, Md.; the railroad bridge had been destroyed by the late rebel raid, and the train passed over on a floating bridge, which seemed to me like a succession of farmer's drags joined together by chains, shaking up and down by the weight of the cars in a strange way. A regiment of soldiers, at equal distances apart, on either side, guarded this bridge. The whole thing was so novel and unexpected, that, like the little old woman in Mother Goose, I had doubts of my identity and wondered "if this be I."

Although I have been in deeper waters since, yet I shall never forget the previous hot night aboard the boat. I had left my little Mary, who, I knew, would miss her mother; and I knew not if I were to meet the living or the dead. My suspense was simply torture. Nor did it end here; although we reached Washington the afternoon of the 16th, yet, for want of a pass, we could not go to the camp of the 6th Regiment until the next forenoon, when Rev. J. F. Gleason, now of Needham, Mass., then in government employ in Washington, procured our pass for us and went with us to camp, kindly carrying my heavy basket. We crossed Aqueduct Bridge, which was guarded by soldiers, that articles "contraband of war," liquor being such, should not be smuggled over. Rev. J. F. G. said to the guards, "This is the lady's basket, and contains pins, needles, thread, laces, etc.," which was all true, the "etc." being a flask of brandy and a bottle of rum. I never took so long a walk on so hot a day.

The hospital was a long one-story building of rough boards, and externally resembled a farmer's unpainted woodshed. There was an open dining-room at one end, and the front door opened directly into the hospital. Reaching it, Mr. Gleason and Mr. Stiles paused to remove perspiration from their faces, and use the fans they had brought from the city. Heat was a secondary matter to me. The anxiety of the previous four weeks had been so great that I could scarcely lift my feet over the threshold. Looking in, I counted thirteen army cots; entering, I turned to the left, resolved to look in each one in order till I found the face I wanted. In the first bed I saw the thin pale face of a sick boy. Anxious though I was to see my husband, I could not leave this poor lad without a word. The wretchedness of the whole thing flashed before me. There was some mother's dear child, sick and away from home and kindred. Placing my hand on his hot forehead, I asked his name. If I remember correctly, he said he was Alfred D. Cutler, from Lexington, Mass., and seventeen years old. He was a brother of the late Mrs. Lewis Spaulding. He seemed pleased when I told him that he did not seem quite a stranger, for his sister once taught our district school. The next cot was in a corner, empty, a chair by it, on which was a plate containing food, and a tumbler of liquid, around which a platoon of flies was "keeping guard" — everything military here. A nurse was making the bed; I asked who occupied it, and he said, "A fellow whose name is Sage," and, pointing to the chair, said, "There's his breakfast now, and he won't eat, and he won't drink." My husband was bolstered up in a tipped back rocking-chair. I copy from my note-book. "Wed., Aug. 17. Reached the hospital at Arlington at 11 A.M., unprepared to find Samuel so much depressed. His first words were, 'Sorry you came, you can't do me any good, nobody can, nothing can.'"

"Good Dr. Burnham has given up his room to me, for he says there is no other place for me. There are two Ohio regiments encamped here, besides the 6th Massachusetts, and I am the only daughter of the regiment."

"Aug. 18. I lodged at Mrs. Hooker's — in Dr. Burnham's room — she says her husband is Capt. in the 2d N.Y. Regiment. Slept on a lounge with a government blanket for a spread, in a lower front room, with a door from it opening directly on the sidewalk, the door open all night because of the heat, and sentinels walking back and forth all night.

"Mrs. Hooker complacently remarks that I will soon get used to this state of things. She

is about half a mile from the hospital. I ride to and from in an army wagon. Dined in the dining-room adjoining the hospital to-day with Dr. Burnham and some others: one course only. Fried salt pork, hasty pudding and molasses. The 'service' was tin plates, quart tin dippers, and generous sized, stout, iron knives and forks. Sam Lane and Jone Munroe watched with Samuel, who slept but little."

"Fri., Aug. 19. The noise in the hospital has worried Samuel, and Dr. Burnham has had him moved on a stretcher to a little log house of two rooms near by, built by soldiers encamped here in 1862. It is primitive in construction, but my room has a beautiful carved mantel, confiscated from some dwelling, — a striking contrast to the rest of the building. I shall stay here all the time now.

"My bedstead to-night will be an empty watering trough, to be exchanged to-morrow for an iron army one. Dr. Burnham has given us a rubber water-pail, dipper and candlestick, requesting me not to burn it late, as we are in Virginia. Jone, or some of the others, brings me food from camp on a tin plate: it never burns me. I witnessed dress parade of our regiment to-day, and went into Fort Smith. The gunners told me the names of the different kinds of guns, and showed me how they were raised and lowered. Little blackboards on the wall beside them had printed directions in regard to kind and quantity of ammunition to be used, and instructions in regard to angle of elevation, etc.

"Capt. Hart, Lieut. Pendergast and the surgeons were the highest in rank of any I had spoken with until yesterday, when, standing by my small open window, I noticed a splendid black horse coming towards me, bearing a rider in rich uniform, finer than anything I had before seen. Stopping before my hovel, and lifting his hat, he said with dignity, 'Madam, by whose authority are you here?'

"Slipping my hand into my pocket for my pass, and reaching it towards him, I said, 'By permission of Maj. Gen. Anger of the Department of Washington.' He bowed and rode away. I have been told to-day that he was Maj. Gen. Anger himself."

"Sat., Aug. 20. Saw a 'rebel' for the first time this morning. I was early at my window, enjoying the rain, a corporal knocked at the door and asked if I had seen any one pass recently. I said I had just seen a tall, pale, red-haired man, smoking a corn-cob pipe, walk slowly by. The corporal stated that the man was an escaped prisoner from the guard-house, the corporal hav-

ing turned his head to get his overcoat to shield himself from the rain.

"Evening. I am in sore trouble and anxiety again! Just settled in this hut, where it is quiet, and where I had hoped I was to remain for a time."

"At 8 p.m. to-night, Drs. Burnham and Bas came in together, and said that I must quietly make every preparation to leave in the morning; the regiment is ordered to Fort Delaware, and that Samuel will have to be taken to some hospital in Washington. The Drs. have both been kind to us, and Dr. Burnham was fatherly and sympathetic as he bade me good-bye, said he pitied me, and if he and Samuel both lived till the war was over, he will surely come to our home to see us.

"Since the war, a woman unattended is regarded with distrust at a hotel in Washington, besides, if it were not so, it is too expensive, as I may have to stay many weeks.

"I don't know where I can put my head. Edward Everett Hale's 'A man without a country' never felt worse than I do to-night. All the other wives and mothers, combined, of the 'hundred days men from Bedford' have not had the anxiety I feel, for none of theirs have been very sick."

"Sun., Aug. 21. This morning an ambulance, with a driver and the hospital steward, came to the door. Samuel was lifted in on a stretcher, beside another soldier from Middleton, Mass., suffering from sciatia. Poor Samuel says he wishes we would let him die, without shaking him around so. All the others in the 6th hospital are able to go on with the regiment. I crawled into the ambulance beside the sick men. I had a tin in one hand, and a teaspoon and a bottle of brandy and water in the other, for moistening their lips. Samuel made no sound, the other man groaned at every lurch. There was no worn road; seemingly, we went any way, across the hot sand, among low bushes and stunted pines, and over gullies with small logs placed across them. I saw quite a number of dead mules and swine by the wayside. As we neared the city, the rough pavements were a change. We stopped at the Armory Square Hospital, near the Smithsonian building. This hospital building is owned by the U.S., and used as an armory in time of peace.

"The grounds are beautifully laid out, and Sur. Gen. Bliss has his headquarters here. I waited without while the sick men were being taken within, the steward going by them as the nurses carried them in; the driver chatted with some halt sick soldiers sitting on a bench by the door.

When the steward came down stairs, he missed his army overcoat from the seat. He asked the men at the door about it, and then came to me, and in a hesitating way asked if I could tell him where it was; said he was told by some of the men that I might know something about it; that he would not have asked, only that he supposed the regiment would remain in the Baltimore depot that night and he would need it badly. I wonder what will happen to me next! This hospital is always full of many of the worst cases, because it is nearest the boat landing. There are now here nearly 3000 sick and wounded. There are tents numbering from A to Z and from 1 to 29, that I have seen. Samuel is in the Armory, ward 1. The building is three stories high. There are two rows of large pillars in the room; around them, in time of peace, double rows of guns are stacked; large cases are around the walls of the room, for ammunition and other army supplies. The lower ward is occupied by those who are able to walk around. In this and the room above are 200 beds, all having spreads alike, gray linen checked with red. A framed card on each headboard tells the name, age, rank, regiment, disease and date of entrance of each patient. The physician in charge is Dr. Ruffin, of Philadelphia.—a gentleman despite his name. Each ward has a hospital steward, ward-master, head nurse, and four assistant nurses, all men. The lady nurse is Gen. Hawley's wife of Connecticut."

"Tues., Aug. 23. I can enter here at 8 A.M. and remain until 6 p.m. I think I shall not come again until 9 o'clock, for more than half in this room have lost a limb, quite a number more than one, and I cannot bear to hear the groans when they are dressed. This is done by a 'contract doctor,' as the nurses call him, who comes in every morning for this alone.

"A boy in the bed next Samuel's interests me much, has had typhoid fever, and now cannot sit up. He looks as I imagine a famished grey wolf may look. The gaunt face, eyes, and hands all have a grey tinge, his hair inclines that way, and his dressing-gown is that color. He is seventeen years old, and belongs to the 2d Penn. Provisionals; was three weeks in the rifle pits at Petersburg, night and day; these had been occupied before by the Confederates. The poor boy seems so grateful for his care here, says he was sick while in the pit, that it was infested with body vermin, and he smiled as he said that they were so old that they had plumes on their heads, a grey stripe down each leg, and C.S.A. on their backs. He knew nothing from the time he was in the pit, until he was told he had

been three weeks in his bed here. Was brought on the boat to Washington, and said to me, 'I never had a boat ride in my life before, and didn't know a thing about this one. Wasn't it too bad?'

"Every thing is very systematic, and all the arrangements are first-class throughout this hospital. Each morning the doctor writes against each patient's name the food for each meal, the hospital steward copies the list and sends his order to the cookhouse, from which narrow gauge tracks are laid to each ward. The closed cars are fitted with shelves, and the waiters bring the specified food, hot and appetizing, to each man's cot. Better baked beans and Indian pudding I never tasted."

"Wed., Aug. 24. Mr. and Mrs. Gleason invited me to their home Sunday and Monday nights. Through their influence I am now in a fine looking confiscated residence, provided by loyal women of the city for women who have come to care for sick soldiers. There are to-day fifteen of these, of different beliefs and walks in life, supposed to be alike in their loyalty.

"The matron is Mrs. Calvert. She says she is a lineal descendant of Lord Baltimore; that her home, near Manassas, has been occupied seven times, first by one army and then the other.

"She is one of a type I have often read about but never before seen, — a Southern housekeeper. She carries her low willow basket of keys with her continually, and deals out to old 'Mammy,' the cook and maid of all work, the tea, coffee, sugar, etc., for each day, keeping drawers and closets locked. When we enter, she looks us over as though we were store packages, and arranges us where she judges we will 'fit' best. I have the honor to be placed in the best room for 'transients,' with four others, — a mother and daughter from Ohio, an Irish woman from N.Y. City, and a Mrs. Chadwick from Philadelphia, who keeps two servants when at home. We are in the third story, and above us they are still more crowded. The price for board is 37½ cents a meal, to sit at the matron's table in the dining-room, or 25 cents to eat in the basement, taking one's turn in doing the cooking for all there and the kitchen work for the day. Mrs. Chadwick and I decided we would try the latter; but when we went below and found that the wood, four feet long, was to be cut and split by each one, that the old axe was very dull, that we must go up stairs and across the street for water, we concluded that the matron's table would be the cheapest for us. The women below look upon us with disfavor, and no wonder, for

the greater the number, the less often comes each one's turn for a hard day's work. At the matron's table the breakfast never varies. The coffee is good, and we have boiled salted herring, not freshened any, and biscuit. 'Mammy' kneads them, and tosses them, and pinches them, until it seems as if some of the black from her fingers must get into them, but they are so white and just delicious!" "Fri., Aug. 26. Same thing every day for dinner! I can't endure it any longer, the look is enough! The cooking at the camp of the 6th was better than this. Our meat is from the side of pork — such as we salt at home, — salted until it will take no more, and smoked till it will take no more, boiled and served in the water in which it is cooked, with long, large, strong, soggy potatoes, with a core in nearly every one, in the water also."

"Sat., Aug. 27. Have had my first experience in this city at a restaurant to-day. Tea and coffee can only be had by the pot-full, price 20 cents. Asked for boiled eggs; the waiter said, 'We have no hens' eggs, ma'am, only keets.' I asked what kind of things 'keets' were, and if their eggs tasted like those of hens. He gave me a commiserating look and replied, 'In what part of the country were you raised, that you don't know guinea keets?' I ate the eggs, and I don't know whether they are like those of hens or not, it is so long since I tasted one. For dinner at the same place I had a small saucer of succotash; but as I had to pay 60 cents for it, I think it will be all I need."

"Wed., Aug. 31. Mrs. Chadwick and I, wishing more variety, buy from the bake-shops, and get our own breakfasts, keeping tea, coffee, sugar, and coffee-pots in our trunks in the third story, and prepare and eat our food in the basement. Some of the women here have no love for us, particularly two, fair looking sisters from North Carolina. They are poor whites, often called 'sand crackers.'

"This morning one of them refused me water from the tea-kettle, and turning to her sister said, she 'lowed Massachusetts was the meanest State in the Union.' After every meal they take out their snuff-boxes, tin salve-boxes, and with a wet match rub snuff on their teeth, — the first 'snuff dippers' I have seen."

"Sept. 4. The matron amuses me, while I am a mystery to her. She invited me to spend last evening with her in her parlor. She was in Massachusetts once, at the laying of the corner-stone of Bunker Hill Monument, and saw no signs of poverty. She says I seem to be an intelligent woman, and she can't understand how I'm willing to do my own housework.

Should think I would have no social position whatever.' I really think she works much harder than I do; for when she is not carrying keys, locking and unlocking, she works continually with a sewing-machine, but then the door to her room is shut. The ostrich hides its head. She says that the valuable old Calvert library at her home has been robbed by both armies; and that Mazeppa, in one of Byron's poems, was a real person, not fictitious, as many suppose. If she was a northern woman, I should wish to ask her authority for the statement; I do not think it best. *She carries the keys."*

"Sept. 5. Old Mammy is very kind to Mrs. C. and myself, and gives us water for our tea every morning from the tea-kettle she uses. Her sick grandchild has long needed a pair of shoes, which she has been unable to provide, as she only gets her board and clothing for her work here. Mrs. Chadwick and I gave her the money for the shoes; and as I handed it to her I saw an instance of the poetic nature of her race. She stooped, and raising the front of my dress to her lips, kissed it, saying, 'De good Lor' bless you an' Mis' Ginn'l Banks, an' may yo' walk in de sunshine ob' glory all yo' life.' I asked her why she placed 'Mis' Ginn'l Banks' and myself together. She said she once washed for Mrs. B., who had been kind to her and given her many things, and she reckoned all dem yer Massachusetts women are 'like.'"

"Sept. 6. To-day looked on what I never saw before, and hope I never may again, — a slave-pen, where in times past slaves were sold at auction. It is a small yard enclosed with a wooden fence; the gate was locked, but through the palings I could see the high block on which many a trembling slave has stood. Even the sign over the gate was suggestive, 'Price & Birch.' It made me think of Cassey, Emeline, and Uncle Tom."

"Sept. 7. Mrs. Hawley, the lady nurse, left some time ago for her vacation. I am the only woman in this ward, here most of the time till 6 p.m. I find many who are glad to have me read, write, or talk with them; occasionally I try to play games with some of the younger ones, but the prevailing opinion is that I am 'remarkably stupid' in regard to games."

"A young dentist from Roxbury is in the ward above; he has asked me to come up and see him every day, and read to him from Rev. J. W. Dabnum's collection of hymns. I told him to-day that I liked some of them very well, and he said that if he lives to reach home, he intends to marry Rev. J. W. D.'s daughter. There is a man in this ward from New Hamp-

shire who has compound fracture of the knee, is in some pain most of the time, but looks well, a contrast to all others here. He does not care to have me read or speak to him; Samuel and I call him 'South Carolina' because he wishes to be 'let alone.' This morning, as I took my usual walk down the aisle, this man looked very solemn, his head resting on his hands. I felt that he was homesick. I suppose I was daring, but my desire was to call him out of himself, if I could. Acting from the impulse of the moment, I said, 'A penny for your thoughts, sir.' To my surprise, he did not frown as before when I had spoken to him, but quietly said, 'My thought is too foolish to tell!' I replied, 'Perhaps not.' 'Well,' he said, 'I was just wishing that I could have some buttermilk biscuit for breakfast, like those the woman used to make with whom I boarded in New Hampshire.'

"He told me her name and the town in which she lived. I said that I had never tasted her biscuit, but knew her to be a lovely woman, that she was my husband's cousin, and came occasionally to my town, Bedford, to visit her sister, Mrs. Nathan O. Reed. This fact seemed to make him social, and he signified his intention of walking down to Samuel's cot to see him as soon as he is able. I feel as though I had won a victory!"

"Sept. 8. Am having good suppers now; have bought a peck of sweet potatoes. One of the cooks bakes some for me every night, and puts a piece of government butter on the plate with them; they are brought up with Samuel's supper and I eat them by his cot. I insist upon the cook baking some for himself."

"Sept. 12. Went to church yesterday at the Epiphany; special services in all the churches, because of the fall of Atlanta. This afternoon went with a lady nurse, just from the front, to see the movement of the artillery horses when a hundred guns were fired because of this victory. The precision of the horses seemed wonderful to me. For this victory there was also a parade after I reached home. A letter from Mr. Gleason at that time is before me; referring to this, he says, 'The torchlight procession was the grandest affair of the kind ever seen in these parts. Had you been here you might have heard the President make a speech and crack a joke.'"

"Sept. 14. Went this evening with Mr. and Mrs. Gleason to the Old Soldiers' Home, some distance from the city, to see President Lincoln. The Home is his summer residence. He passed us riding to it in an open landau, with a body guard of men on horseback, six in front and

six behind. We waved our handkerchiefs and bowed, and he bowed in return."

"Sept. 15. For exercise to-day I have been to the Capitol, as I often have of late. The room that impresses me the most is the President's Reception Room. It is not so elegant as the Senate Reception Room, but it is suggestive of the history of the United States. Upon the walls are portraits of the first Cabinet, while the rest of it is a perpetual study, covered with paintings suggesting scenes in our country's life. To the beautiful paintings on the ceiling, Law, Religion, etc., Constantino Brinardi, the Italian artist, has given the face of his wife.

"To me the most amusing sight in the Patent Office is the collection of men's dress, or fur hats,—wide and narrow rimmed, tall, short or bell-crowned, of various colors.

"Among the earliest stoves, I hunted for the one on which my uncle, the minister, Josiah Hill, obtained a patent; my father and the other brothers all had one; the words, 'J. Hill's Patent,' being on the hearth, which was a source of great delight to me when a very small child."

"Sept. 16. With my help, Samuel has walked from his bed to the window to-day, the first steps he has taken for weeks. Some rebel prisoners from the front passed by, and he wished to see them. Their clothing seemed to be odds and ends of everything, not all butternut color by any means. Several had pieces of patchwork quilts for blankets."

"Sept. 17. Samuel not as well to-day, in pain, and not out of his bed until 3 P.M., when the ward-master said he must go down stairs, because it is inspection day, and Dr. Bliss is the officer of the day: he decides who are able to go to the front. I have expostulated with the master in vain. He set his teeth firmly together, and said, 'Madam, he's got to go.' The man is cross, and he is sick, too. His left arm has been amputated, and gangrene is in the stump. He was overbearing yesterday to Dea. Paul Haywood of Boxboro'; I think I shall tell the doctor to-morrow how things are. The master is in the regular army, and members of it, I notice, do not always like volunteers. One of the nurses had to help Samuel up and down the stairs. Everything Dr. Bliss said was, 'Show your tongue, sir,' and, 'Go back to your bed!'"

"Sept. 19. Went this morning to the domestic quarters of the hospital to hear the colored washerwomen sing; a dozen in a row, all wearing turbans, their black arms moving up and down, and the white foam flying, how they *did* sing! A revival hymn they wailed in fine style; one verse was,—

"'An' on dat da' dar'll be no hidin' place,  
An' on dat da' dar'll be no hidin' place,  
An' on dat da' dar'll be no hidin' place,  
De gate'll be shut, an' ye carn git in.'"

"Then they changed to a pean of triumph, extolling those that had benefited their race. There were thirty-nine verses, all alike, excepting the name, beginning with Robert Small, the colored pilot, who was the means of bringing relief to Fort Anderson, and ending with Abraham Lincoln. The last verse was,—

"'Mars' Linkum a settin' in de tree ob life,  
Mars' Linkum a settin' in de tree ob life,  
Mars' Linkum a settin' in de tree ob life,  
G-l-o-r-y in my soul!'"

"A chapel with a bell is on the grounds here, and every afternoon at 2 P.M. the bugle sounds for funerals,—the bugle is used for everything here. I went to the service to-day,—all soldiers but myself; one played on the melodeon, and most of the others sang the hymns. Everything was orderly and solemn. A woman from Berks. Co., Penn., who stays in the basement, unlettered, ignorant, and unused to travelling, with a clay pipe in her hand, sat on the back stairs of the boarding-house to-night, and drew around her a larger audience than any other woman in the house could have done, for she has to-day had an interview with Abraham Lincoln, and we all drew around her to hear her tell it in her peculiar way. She told the President that her husband, a cripple, had died since the enlistment of their three only sons, two of whom had been killed in battle, and the last one was sick in a hospital here, and she wanted him to come home as she thought she could cure him; and she finished her account of the interview by saying, 'I told the President I hadn't got no person else, and he laid his hand on my shoulder and said, "Mother, you shall have your boy."'"

"Sept. 20. We have a new ward-master to-day. I go home this week, but I have a pleasant surprise for all in this room and the ward above. I have received a letter from one who has ever been the Lady Bountiful of Bedford, Miss C. M. Fitch, enclosing \$5 each from herself, Mrs. Jenks, and Miss Rand for comforts for the sick here. Have been to every bed and got the list of their wants. One wishes a pair of new socks, the others something to eat, peaches mostly, a few desire apples, pears, grapes, or melons, while one wants currant jelly. I shall show my list to Dr. Ruffin, and, if he approves, these poor sick men shall be gratified."

"Sept. 21. Have been busy all day, and am happily tired to-night. Have taken a peck basket three times full from the market oppo-



site, and distributed the luxuries provided by Miss Fitch. The nurses carried the basket up the stairs for me. Handed some lemons to the ex-ward-master; he has a cot now. "South Carolina" would not take any fruit, but as he wished to write some letters, did take three postage stamps; if he gets paid before I leave, insists upon returning them. Mrs. Gleason has kindly consented to use the money left for the same purpose."

After I went home, Mr. Sage remained in this hospital until his time was nearly out, when he was so earnest to return with his regiment that his doctor reluctantly consented to send him to them at Fort Delaware. For this purpose he was sent to Camp Distribution, near Alexandria, — not a place for the sick, only used for troops passing to and from the front, a terrible place, full of vermin, and often called "Camp Hell" by the soldiers. The train had just left for Fort Delaware, and here he had to remain over a week, for an officer was not furnished for one soldier. Here he grew worse, the food was unfit for a well person. — one thing was raw pork, which he thought seemed to be pickled in vinegar. When he could eat, he lived on crackers and milk bought from a sutler, until his pocket-book was stolen.

He begged or borrowed a stamp and envelope from a sutler, and wrote to me on the white edge of a strip of newspaper, asking me to send him twenty-five cents — and no more — every morning till "countermanded." This I did for a week, when hoping to return with the others he wished no more to be sent. Not hearing for some days from him, I felt sure he would come with the others. If I remember aright, they came Saturday, October 22. I went up street to see them come to the Post Office, two stage loads, with their guns out of the windows and on top of the coaches, glistening in the afternoon sun.

I remember how happy and exultant I felt! I was doomed to disappointment. My soldier was not with them! No one had seen him, or could tell me anything of him; as one wrote afterward, it was "all the good times, and I not in them."

It had been arranged for the returned soldiers to attend church the next day in a body, special thanksgiving services having been prepared for the occasion by Rev. William J. Batt.

I had my bonnet and church clothing laid out in readiness. I sadly went to my lonely home and put them out of sight, feeling like the childless mother in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem. "After news from Gata, 1861."

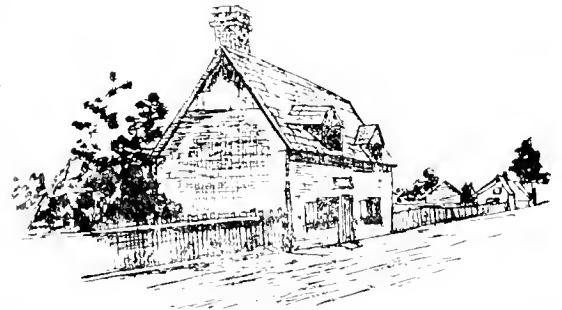
"Ah, ring your bells low,  
And burn your lights faintly!  
If in keeping the feast,  
You want a great song for your Italy free,  
Let none look on me!"

Like the widow of the pine cottage in the National Reader I used to read from at school, I sat late that night by the glowing coals, but unlike her, for I had not her strong faith. *She* was in a story, *I* was in real life, a worn-out, troubled woman; and my thought was, "I cannot have it so." I heard steps, and my name faintly spoken! I knew the voice, and rushed to the door. There, on the doorstep, exhausted with the long ride from Lexington, sat a nondescript individual, with a red silk handkerchief drawn closely over his army cap, a white one around his neck, and a long, large dressing-gown of strikingly wide purple and yellow stripes over his blouse. No one, who knew the man, will doubt the sincerity of his words as I opened the door. "Thank God, I've got home at last!"

I never knew him to willingly allude to his army experience, in the years of suffering in which he remained to guide and comfort and bless his family. And the dearest place to him was ever his home.

Very truly yours,

MARTHA HILL SAGE.



BUNYAN'S COTTAGE, ELSTOW

## CHAPTER XXXII.

*The Mother Town of Bedford.*

[The author is happy to give place to a chapter descriptive of Bedford, England, prepared at his request by Rev. Edward G. Porter of Lexington.]

BEDFORD, the county seat of Bedfordshire, is situated in the heart of England, about fifty miles north of London, on the main line of the Midland railway. Camden, who wrote three hundred years ago, says Bedford is "more eminent for the pleasantness of its situation and

antiquity than anything of beauty or stateliness." Agriculture has always been the chief occupation of the people of this district. The country is slightly undulating, well cultivated, and watered by the river Ouse, which winds "more macandrous than Maeander." Speaking of these serpentine windings, an old author observes that the Ouse runs a distance of eighty miles to reach a distance of eighteen, and then humorously exclaims, "Blame it not, if sensible of its sad condition, and presaging its fall into the foggy fens of the next county, it be loath to leave this pleasant place; as who would not prolong their own happiness?"

The Ouse is navigable from Bedford to the sea, flowing by St. Neots, Huntingdon, St. Ives, Ely, and Lynn, and emptying into the German Ocean at the Wash. Although rather narrow, like the Cam and the Isis, it affords excellent facilities for boating.

The ancient history of Bedford naturally falls into four distinct periods, — the British, the Roman, the Saxon, and the Norman. Of the first we know but little. The site was occupied by a sturdy people called Cassii, whose chief, Cassivellanus, commanded the united forces of all the tribes to oppose the invasion of Julius Cæsar (B. C. 54). Whether the Roman town of *Lactodorum* stood here has been questioned, but from all accounts it could not have been far away. Two of the great Roman roads, Watling Street and Icknield Way, ran through this county, crossing each other at Dunstable. A pitched battle was fought near Bedford, in 572, between Cuthwulf, the Saxon, and the Britons, in which the latter were defeated. The territory was attached to the kingdom of Mercia till 827, when it became subject to the West Saxons, under Egbert.

The name of Bedford can be traced back to this period, when there was a military station on the river here called *Bedicanford*, shortened into *Bed-an-ford*, meaning the Fortress-on-the-ford. Offa, king of Mercia, chose this for his burial place, and his remains were deposited in a small chapel on the river's brink, which was afterward undermined and swept away by a flood. This incident has suggested to some antiquaries the possibility of another derivation. Bede is the Saxon word for prayer, or praying-place. Hence Bedford may mean the prayer-ford, or the chapel-at-the-ford. "Bede-houses" were not uncommon then, and when built near a ford, or bridge, they would suggest prayer for a safe passage. The earliest record extant of the present orthography is found in a Latin manuscript of the time of Edward III.

(1345), where the inhabitants of Bedford are spoken of as "*Homines Bedfordiae*."

The town was plundered by the Danes in the reign of Edward the Elder, who rebuilt it, and joined it to the little village of Mikesgate, on the opposite bank of the river. Since then both places have borne the name of Bedford.

After the Norman conquest a strong castle was built here by Payn Beauchamp, third Baron of Bedford. It was a frowning, massive structure, with enormous walls and earthworks, and its important situation involved it for a long time in many of the internal struggles of England. The haughty lords of the keep exercised their feudal powers with little regard to the inhabitants, whom they regarded only as their retainers. Encased in armor, they sallied forth from their stronghold in search of booty, roaming at will, and compelling tribute at the edge of the sword. During the civil war between King Stephen and Matilda, Bedford Castle was the scene of many fierce conflicts.

The first municipal charter was granted to Bedford in 1166, subject to a payment of forty pounds a year as a fee-farm rent to the crown. It became a representative borough in the reign of Edward I., the suffrage being limited to freemen and householders not receiving alms.

William de Beauchamp, Lord of Bedford, was one of the insurgent barons against King John in support of the struggle for *Magna Charta*. In consequence his castle was besieged by the royalists, and compelled to capitulate. But the greatest event in its history was the memorable siege conducted by Henry III. in person. The chroniclers describe the siege-engines used on this occasion, some for hurling stones, some for making breaches in the wall; others were swung high in the air, for scouts and cross-bowmen. Miners sapped the walls, protected by the "cat." Slingers also did effective service. After a siege of sixty days, the castle was taken by assault, and completely dismantled. The stones were afterward used in the construction of Newnham Abbey, Caldwell Priory, St. Paul's, and other Bedford churches. The picturesque old bridge and gate-houses, which stood until 1765, were built of the same materials. No remains of the old fortress are visible, but the circuit can be traced in the rear of the Swan Inn. The keep is now a bowling-green.

The arms of the corporation of Bedford represent a castle overshadowed by the imperial Roman eagle, with spread wings, suggesting two important periods in the history of the town.

The loss of the castle seems to have been a gain to Bedford. Its citizens were now free to

pursue the peaceful occupations of life, to develop the rich agricultural lands in the vicinity, and to encourage commercial relations, especially with the other towns on the river.

A mercantile guild and other privileges and immunities were granted by different monarchs. In the charter of Richard II. the corporation is styled "The mayor, bailiff, and burgesses."

The barony of Bedford was given to the famous warrior, John Plantagenet (third son of Henry IV.), called by Shakespeare "Prince John of Lancaster," who won his spurs at Shrewsbury (1403). He was created Duke of Bedford, and became Regent of France for the English. With the aid of the Dukes of Burgundy and Brittany, he waged war against France, and was baffled only by the interposition of Joan of Arc. He succeeded, however, in capturing the maiden, and was one of the principal agents in securing her tragic death.

In those days Bedfordshire was famous for the number and wealth of its religious houses. After the Dissolution, the chief part of the monastic property was bestowed upon the Russell family, with the Earldom of Bedford. In 1694 the dukedom was restored by William III., in consideration of the services of the family in the struggle for civil and religious liberty. The title continues to the present time.

Bedford has long been distinguished for its numerous charitable endowments. One of its most eminent sons was Sir William Harper, who became master of the Merchant Tailors' Company, and Lord Mayor of London in 1561, and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth. He made a remarkable gift to his native town by a deed, dated 1566, conveying thirteen and one-quarter acres of land lying in Holborn, to provide a free education for the youth of Bedford of both sexes and every grade. He had bought the land for £180, and it was then yielding £10 a year. Eighteen years later it brought a rental, on a long lease, of £150 a year. Many streets were laid out, and new houses built upon the land, so that it rapidly advanced in value, producing in the year 1800 £1,000, and at the present time the handsome revenue of £15,000 a year! Some of the streets on Sir William's land are among the best known in London, as Bedford Street, Bedford Row, Bedford Court, Prince's Street, Queen Street, Boswell Court, Harper Street, Theobald's Road, and Gray's Inn Passage. The objects to which this large income is given have been very properly extended by Parliament. It is administered by a board of eighteen trustees, in a rotation of six each year. Sir William's first wife was "Dame Alice,"

for whom a street in Bedford was named. In the chancel of St. Paul's, the mother church of Bedford, is an altar tomb, with brass figures of Sir William and his second wife, both standing with folded hands. He has on a suit of armor, partly covered by an aldermanic gown. The inscription is as follows:—

Obiit 27<sup>th</sup> die February 1573. Aetatis suae 77.

Here under lieth buried the body of Sir William Harper, Knight, Alderman and late Lord Mayor of the citie of London w<sup>th</sup> the dame Margaret his last wife, W<sup>m</sup>. Sir William was borne in this towne of Bedford & here founded & gave lands for the maintenance of a grauer schoole.

The most illustrious name connected with Bedford is that of John Bunyan, who was born in 1628 in the neighboring village of Elstow, over the river, on the road to Luton. The old "moot-house" still stands on the spacious village green,—a quaint structure of brick and oak, once the court house of the manor, and used in Bunyan's time for romps and dances, and now for public meetings, fairs, and Sunday-schools. On the green may also be seen the stone stump of the ancient market-cross, near which the sheep are wont to graze and children to play.

The Elstow church is a well-preserved monument of the Norman and early English periods. It has two memorial windows to Bunyan, illustrating scenes from his "Pilgrim's Progress" and "Holy War." The massive tower, like some others in England, is a detached campanile, twenty-two feet from the church, in the perpendicular style, heavily buttressed at the four corners, and contains a chime of bells and a large village clock. Here Bunyan practiced the art of bell-ringing. The English had become at that time enthusiastic lovers of the melody produced by a ring of bells. It was in consequence of their invention of "changes" that England became known as "the ringing island." Bedford was foremost in this national taste.

Bunyan was brought up as a white-smith, or brazier, a mender of pots and kettles. He had a forge and workshop at Elstow, and went out as a journeyman "tinker." He was largely possessed of the Puritan spirit, and at the age of sixteen we find him enlisted in the army, during the decisive campaign of 1645. After his return he married the daughter of a worthy family, and began to relinquish his favorite amusements. His conscience, he tells us, was suddenly aroused one Sunday afternoon as he was playing "tip cat" on the village green. His profound experience and fervent devotional

spirit gave him great influence with the people. He moved into Bedford, and became a deacon of the non-conformist body there. He was soon set apart as a preacher, and his fame spread rapidly, causing his enemies to complain, "because he strove to mend souls as well as kettles." After the Restoration he gave such offence to the authorities that he was imprisoned in the county jail, an old structure that stood in High Street, on the now vacant lot, used as a market place, at the corner of Silver Street. This jail was taken down in 1801. Here he was confined for twelve years, and again, three years later, for a period of six months, during which time, it is thought, he wrote his immortal allegory.\* His indictment charges him with the crime of "devilishly and perniciously abstaining from coming to church to hear divine service, and for being a common upholder of several unlawful meetings and conventicles, to the great disturbance and distraction of the good subjects of the kingdom, contrary to the laws of our sovereign lord the King."

The only books Bunyan had in jail were the Bible and Foxe's "Book of Martyrs." After his release he often went to London to preach, and was urged to remain there, but he never consented to remove his residence from Bedford, to which he was sincerely attached. He lived in a small, one-story cottage, on the east side of the town, in the parish of St. Cuthbert. His earlier home, after his marriage, is still standing on the Elstow road. The place of worship which bears his name is in Mill Lane, on the site of the one in which he preached. It is a plain brick edifice, rebuilt in 1771, with a small porch in front and a vestry behind. An inscription states that Bunyan was minister here thirty-two years, including the period of his imprisonment. In 1876 a fine bronze door, in two sections, with ten scenes from "Pilgrim's Progress," in relief, was given by the Duke of Bedford. Dr. Brown, Bunyan's best biographer, and the present Congregational minister here, has several interesting relics of the great author, for example, his will, and chair; his cabinet, staff, and jug; the heavy doors of the

county jail, and versions of "Pilgrim's Progress" in nearly eighty different languages! With the exception of the Bible, no book in the English tongue has passed through so many editions as this. The Bedford Literary and Scientific Institute, in Harper Street, has Bunyan's copy of Foxe's "Book of Martyrs" (ed. 1641), with his autograph and annotations. Bunyan died in London, in 1688, and was buried in Bunhill Fields. Many Puritans afterward begged the privilege of being buried as near his grave as possible.

One of the chief objects of interest in Bedford is the fine bronze statue of Bunyan, by Boehm, erected on St. Peter's Green, at the upper end of High Street. The face is modelled after the well-known portrait by Robert White in the British Museum. It is a commanding figure, in the Puritan dress, with the open Bible in hand. On the pedestal is a relief representing the conflict of Christian with Apollyon, under which is the inscription:—

PRESENTED TO THE  
BOROUGH OF BEDFORD  
BY  
HASTINGS IX DUKE OF BEDFORD  
JUNE 10, 1874.  
IN THE MAYORALTY  
OF  
GEORGE HURST ESQ.

John Howard, the philanthropist, lived at Cardington, near Bedford. He was sheriff for the county, and for many years an active member of the Bunyan church. The Moravians, who settled here in 1745, have maintained their organization with characteristic zeal.

There are few towns in any country so well provided with educational and charitable institutions as Bedford. The grammar school in Harper Street has six hundred and fifty students, and is considered one of the leading public schools of England. It has eight "exhibitions" of seventy pounds each per annum at Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin. Over the entrance to the building is a statue of the founder, Sir William Harper, in civic robes. Near by is the modern school, so called, with five hundred and fifty pupils. There are also a high and a modern school for girls, with ample equipments, and a green-coat school.

Among the charities should be mentioned the dowry of twenty pounds a year to each of forty poor maidens of good character between the ages of eighteen and fifty. Those who are disappointed are entitled to the preference at the

\* The popular tradition that Bunyan was incarcerated in the town jail on the old bridge (removed in 1765) does not seem to be well established. That was a mere "lock-up," fourteen feet square, and could not have contained as many prisoners as Bunyan had for companions. Moreover the warrant for his release speaks of him as "a prisoner in the common gaol for our county of Bedford." Dr. Brown concedes this, but argues that, when imprisoned for the second time, the "dreamer" may have been put into the corporation jail on the bridge, and there he may have written his wonderful dream. History furnishes many examples of an apparent fact, sustained by documents, contradicting a widely accepted and tenacious tradition.

next apportionment. The condition is that they are to marry within two months, and the money is paid on the wedding day.

A widow's pension of ten shillings and sixpence is paid out regularly to a certain number of applicants. The Harper Street almshouses are famous. They number forty-six, and have four rooms each, two below and two above. Each house has a garden forty feet long. Seven shillings a week are given to each inmate, besides two pounds a year for clothing. There are many other almshouses, both old and new. Perhaps there are too many for the best interests of the people. It is said that in proportion to its size Bedford has more public endowments than any other place in the kingdom.

The municipal government is vested in a mayor, elected annually, a recorder and deputy, six aldermen, two bailiffs, and eighteen common councilmen. The bailiffs for the time being are lords of the manor. Two members are returned to Parliament. Most of the county business is carried on here, and there is a steady influx of visitors, who add not a little to its life and wealth.

Among the public buildings may be mentioned several fine old churches, schools, the courts, the jail, the corn exchange, the hospital, the infirmary, the banks, the assembly hall, the public library, reading room and museum (founded in 1830.) Bedford maintains an historical society, a home missionary society, branches of the Church missionary society, the Bible society (of which the Duke of Bedford is president), and the Religious Tract society; a ladies' clothing society, and a horticultural society, to say nothing of various literary, musical, and athletic clubs. The town has two weekly markets, seven annual fairs, an agricultural association, and regular races which have always been popular. The water works and sanitary arrangements are particularly good, the sewage being conveyed to a farm a mile away, and utilized at once for raising crops of cereals, grass, and vegetables.

The old staple industry of the town is the manufacture of straw goods and thread lace; but in recent years the large agricultural implement factory of the Howard company seems to have attracted more attention.

The principal thoroughfare is High Street, which bisects the town, and leads to the bridge. The streets generally are narrow, like those of most old European towns, but they are well kept and provided with good sidewalks. The houses are mostly of brick, two or three stories high, very plain, but substantial and comforta-

ble. Many new houses and villas are springing up of late on the West side.\*

The George Inn is the old hostelry of coaching days. It has a quaint stone figure of St. George and the Dragon in a conspicuous niche. Travellers to-day find "The Swan," near the river, an agreeable resort. The "Embankment Promenade," on a pleasant afternoon in summer, is the chief rendezvous for the citizens. It is tastefully laid out as a public park along the river whose placid waters reflect the five graceful arches of the bridge. Pleasure boats are passing continually, and the meadow landscape, with its abundant foliage and hawthorne hedges and grazing cattle, is a fine type of the rural beauty of old England, so dear to our fathers.

The population of Bedford has increased during this century from four thousand to about twenty thousand.

The most important estate in Bedfordshire is Woburn Abbey, the lordly seat of the Duke of Bedford, in the midst of a beautiful park well stocked with deer.



THE EMBANKMENT PROMENADE, BEDFORD

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### *Burial Grounds and Epitaphs.*

[Inscriptions from head-stones in the old Burial Ground, in an abbreviated form, with notes of explanation. Alphabetical order has been partially observed, rather than chronological, for the convenience of the reader.]

The church yard, to the inhabitants of a rural parish, is the place to which, as they grow older, all their thoughts and feelings turn.

JOHN WILSON.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,

And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,

Await alike the inevitable hour;

The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

THOMAS GRAY.

EDWARD STEARNS ABBOTT, son of Mr. Moses Abbott, Jr., and Mrs. Alice, his wife, died Dec. 18, 1798, aged 22 months.

\* Since the act of Parliament for the improvement of the town of Bedford, thatched buildings are not allowed either to be constructed or repaired.

Benjamin Abbott, son of Moses and Alice Abbott, April 29, 1795, aged 1 year 3 months.

Thrice of this cup we drank our fill,  
Wormwood and gall we taste it still;  
Oh! who can tell, that never felt,  
What parents feel for children's death?

In memory of Benjamin Abbott, son of Mr. Moses and Mrs. Mary, his wife, who died May 21, 1793, in the 28th year of his age.

Here lies entombed a pious youth,  
Not twenty-eight years old;  
In prime of life cut down by death,  
No more we him behold.

Here lies buried the body of Mr. Obed Abbott, who departed this life May the 11th, 1773, in ye 77th year of his age.

John Abbott, who died in ye army at Lake George, Nov. ye 27, 1756, aged 23 years.

Here lies ye body of Mrs. Elizabeth Abbott, wife of Mr. Obed Abbott, who died May ye 29th, 1752, in ye 59th year of her age.

In memory of Mrs. Mary Abbott, wife of Mr. Moses Abbott, who died Sept. 5, 1807, aged 66 years.

Hark! from the tomb a doleful sound,  
Mine ear attend the cry;  
You living, all come view the ground  
Where you must shortly lie.

Sacred to the memory of Capt. Moses Abbott, who died Nov. 22, 1809, aged 83 years.

In memory of Mr. Moses Abbott, Junr., died Feb. 19, 1802, aged 49 years.

Alas! alas! my husband dear,  
Early cut down and slain;  
But Christ is the believer's head,  
And he shall live again.

Mary Ann, wife of Lieut. Oliver Abbott, who died Dec. 26, 1825, aged 19.

The Saviour calls, and I must go,  
And leave you here, my friends, below;  
But soon my God will call for thee,  
Prepare for death and follow me.

Mr. Abijah, son of John and Elizabeth Bacon, May 1, 1776, aged 22.

Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Bacon, who departed this life Aug. 26, 1749, in the (?) year of her age.

John Bacon, son of John and Elizabeth Bacon, who died Aug. 30, 1749, aged 3 years.

Elbridge Bacon, Aug. 31, 1848, aged 48.

Emily Frances, daughter of Elbridge and Louisa Bacon, Dec. 31, 1838, aged 7 years.

Mrs. Ruth, wife of Reuben Bacon, Jr., July 19, 1838, aged 24.

Yet again we hope to meet thee,  
When the day of life has fled;  
Then in heaven with joy to greet thee,  
Where no farewell tears are shed.

In memory of Mr. Oeta Bacon, son of Thompson Bacon, and Mrs. Martha, his wife, July 28, 1811, aged 16 years 3 months.

Thompson Bacon, Esq., Dec. 4, 1833, aged 73 years.

Not him does death itself alarm,  
On heaven his soul relies;  
With joy he views his Maker's love,  
And with composure dies.

In memory of Mrs. Martha, relict of Thompson Bacon, Esq., who died Feb. 13, 1847, aged 84 years.

Breget Bacon, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth, April 20, 1731, aged 25.

Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Jonathan Bacon, Dec. 16, 1738, aged 67 years.

Jonathan Bacon, Jan. 12, 1754, aged 82 years.

[He was son of Michael, proprietor of the mill on the Shawshine, had a share in the common lands of Billerica, was third layman in the foundation members of the church, assembled the first town meeting by order of the General Court, was one of the first selectmen, and a man of influence in town and church till death.]

Reuben Bacon, son of John and Elizabeth Bacon, died May 22, 1775, in the 18th year of his age.

[His young life was sacrificed at the opening of the Revolution.]

In memory of John Bacon, June 7, 1833, aged 80 years.

Hannah, wife of John Bacon, Sept. 27, 1823, aged 70.

Katherine Bacon, wife of Deacon Benjamin Bacon, July 7, 1791, aged 74 years.

Sacred to the memory of Deacon Benjamin Bacon, Oct. 1, 1791, aged 78.

Go, traveller, live to God.

In memory of Mr. Elijah Bacon, Sept. 13, 1788, aged 34 years.

In memory of Mrs. Amittai Bacon, wife of Mr. Benjamin Bacon, Oct. 10, 1806, aged 48.

Farewell, kind friends, a short farewell,  
Till we shall meet again above,  
In paradise, where pleasures dwell,  
And kindred souls rejoice in love.

In memory of Mr. Oliver Bacon, May ye 25, 1794, aged 54.

Forbear, my friends, to weep,  
Since death to me is gain;  
Those Christians who in Jesus sleep  
Shall with the Lord remain.

In memory of Mrs. Sarah, widow of Mr. Oliver Bacon, Jan. 25, 1841, in her 94th year.

[She had been a member of an orthodox church seventy years.]

Children of Mr. Oliver and Mrs. Sarah Bacon. Oliver, April 17, 1787, aged 11 years. Iza, June 6, 1787, aged 8 years.

Two blooming youth cut down and fled  
To regions of the silent dead,  
There to remain beneath the ground  
Till the last trump begins to sound.

Here lyes buried ye body of Joseph Bacon, who departed this life November ye 29th, A.D. 1747, in ye 63d year of his age.

In memory of Mrs. Rebekah Bacon, relict of Mr. Joseph Bacon, Aug. 24, 1778, aged 91 years 1 month 16 days.

Jesse Bacon, son of Mr. John and Mrs. Elizabeth Bacon, Aug. 26, 1749, aged 19 days. Elizabeth, their daughter, Feb. 15, 1754, in ye 4th year of her age; also still-born son lies at her right hand.

Here lyes buried the body of Mr. John Bacon, who departed this life May ye 26, 1760, in ye 44th year of his age.

In memory of Job Lane Bacon, son of Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Martha Bacon, Sept. 9, 1805, aged 13 months 22 days.

Warren, son of Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Abigail Bacon, Jan. 28, 1822, aged 6 years and 15 days.

Emma C., daughter of Mr. Clark and Mrs. Emma C. Bacon, Aug. 16, 1833, aged 2 months and 4 days.

In memory of Sarah Bacon, daughter of Benjamin, Jr., and Martha, his wife, Sept. 17, 1799, aged 5 years.

Elizabeth, wife of Freeborn Balch of Beverly, died Jan. 31, 1736 | 7.

Lucy Billings, Oct. 28, 1838, aged 64 years.

Thomas Bowes, son of Rev. Nicholas and Mrs. Lucy Bowes, died May ye 21st, 1750, aged 2 years 11 months.

[He was choked to death with a bean.]

Here lies the body of Mary Bowman, daughter of Mr. Francis Bowman and Mrs. Sarah, his wife, who died Nov. 20, 1762.

We children of a father dear  
Erected have these grave-stones here.

In memory of Mr. Joseph Brown, who died Dec. 25, 1762, aged 30 years.

Life is short and death is sure,  
Sin the cause and Christ the cure.

Jb. Db. Hb. & Sb.

[Initials stand for Joseph, Desire, Hannah, and Submit Brown.]

In memory of John Brown, son of Nathaniel and Ruth Brown, Sept. 12, 1803, aged 5 years.

Sleep on, sweet babe, and take thy rest:  
God called thee home when he thought best.

Sarah C., wife of John Cutting, March 3, 1848, aged 29.

Ellen, daughter of James and Hannah Clark, Jan. 26, 1833, aged 6 months.

Mr. Stephen Davis, "who rested from his labor at his labor." July 11, 1738, aged 53 years.

[On that day he arose early, and went to his work, and not returning to his breakfast, search was made for him: when found, he was lying dead by a few short swaths of grass which he had mown in the meadow that borders on a branch of Shawshine Brook, near the line of the town of Lincoln. The spot is designated by a plain stone in the field. He was a founder of the church, and one of the first constables.]

Paul Davis, son of Josiah and Elizabeth, Jan. 9, 1763, aged 17 years.

[He died in the French and Indian War.]

Mr. Daniel Davis, Feb. 10, 1740, aged 67 years.

[He was a petitioner for the new town, a founder of the church, and one of the first selectmen.]

Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Josiah Davis, Jan. 15, 1763, aged 41 years.

Dea. Stephen Davis, July 22, 1787, aged 71 years. Elizabeth, his wife, 1789, aged 71 years.

[Deacon Stephen was son of Stephen, was deacon of the church from 1760 till death, was a very skilful land surveyor, and a very useful and highly respected citizen.]

Mrs. Sarah, wife of Dea. Thaddeus Davis, March 26, 1807, aged 47.

Sacred to the memory of Lieut. Eleazer Davis, March 13, 1819, aged 85 years.

Mrs. Rebekah, his wife.

Martha J., daughter of Mr. Eleazer and Mrs. Martha Davis, Feb. 10, 1817, in the 9th year of her age.

Here lyes the body of Mrs. Mary Davis, wife of Mr. Eleazer Davis, who departed this life Jan. ye 28, A.D. 1763, aged 22 years 10 months 2 days. (Daughter of Mr. Josiah and Mrs. Elizabeth Davis.)

Mr. Joshua Davis, died April 29, 1746, aged 31.

Here lies ye body of Hannah Davis, daughter of Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Mary Davis, April ye 11, 1737, aged 14 years 2 months and 21 days.

Mrs. Hanna, wife of Silas Dudley, Aug. 1, 1828, aged 27.

Stop, dear friends, stop and think,  
Before you further go:  
Will you sport upon the brink  
Of everlasting woe?

Sacred to the memory of Supply Dean, May 25, 1826, aged 26.

Lieut. Joseph French, Nov. 26th, 1732, aged 83.

[His name heads the list of petitioners, May 1, 1728, "for the erection of a new town to be called Bedford," and also stands at the head of the laymen who founded the church.]

Mr. Samuel French, Jan. 28, 1738, aged about 52 years.

Doc. John Fassett, Jan. 30th, 1736, aged 66 years.

[He was the first resident physician in the town.]

Capt. Josiah Fassett, Feb. 18, 1740, aged 53 years.

Calley Fassett, daughter of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Dorothy Fassett, Aug. 22, 1775, aged 17 years.

In memory of Capt. Joseph Fitch, Feb. ye 7, 1769, aged 67.

Here lies the body of Mrs. Sarah Fitch, wife to Mr. Joseph Fitch, Jan. 22, A.D. 1750, in ye 40th year of her age.

Erected in memory of Mr. John Fitch, May 31, 1820, aged 81.

Sacred to the memory of Mr. Matthew Fitch, Aug. 3, A.D. 1811, aged 66.

Erected in memory of Capt. Moses Fitch, Aug. 1, 1821, aged 37.

Sacred to the memory of Dea. Moses Fitch and Mrs. Rachel, his wife. Dea. Moses Fitch died Oct. 12, 1825, in the 71st year of his age. Mrs. Rachel Fitch, died May 23, 1817, in the 59th year of her age.

[He was wounded in the battle of White Plains, N.Y.]

Erected in memory of Mrs. Sally Fitch, wife of Mr. Olford Fitch, Aug. 23, 1820, aged 23.

Death with his dart has pierced my heart  
When I was in my prime;  
When this you see grieve not for me,  
'Twas God's appointed time.

In memory of Jonathan Simonds Fitch, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Olive Fitch, Jan. 25, 1819, aged 4 years.

Isaac, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Olive Fitch, Feb. 13, 1825, aged 1 month 21 days.

Judge not God by feeble sense,  
But trust him for his grace.  
Behind a frowning providence  
He has a smiling face.

In memory of Mrs. Hannah Fitch, wife of Mr. David Fitch, Jr., Dec. 22, 1805, aged 26 years 10 months 16 days.

Shall mortal man complain of Him who is most just,  
When he removes our nearest friends,  
And lays them in the dust?

Here lies ye body of Mr. Isaac Fitch, son of Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Miriam Fitch, who departed this life July the 24th, 1773, in ye 22d year of his age.

In memory of Isaac Fitch, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Mary Fitch, Feb. ye 6th, 1797, aged 15 years and 21 days.

The Lord reigns in the heavens,  
And angels him adore;  
He sends death to take young mortals off  
At his appointed hour.

Mr. David Fitch, July 27, 1813, aged 70.

Mrs. Mary, wife of Mr. David Fitch, Sept. 19, 1829, aged 82 years.

Sacred to the memory of Abel Fitch, Oct. 16, 1839, aged 30. Henry Brainard, son of Abel and Nancy Fitch, July, 1839, aged 3 months.

In memory of Lydia Fitch, March 11, 1759, aged 14 years. Nathan Fitch, May 13, 1755, in ye 7th year of his age. (Children of Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Miriam Fitch.)

In memory of Mr. Abner Foster, son of Mr. Noah and Mrs. Gracy Foster, March 6, 1828, aged 24 years.

Our friend is dead and gone to rest;  
He's left that pleasing hope behind,  
That he is numbered with the just,  
And drinks with angels joys refined.

Hannah P., wife of Dr. Bela Gardner, Jan. 20, 1844, aged 40 years.

Here, amid the scenes of her childhood's home, on the spot where her footsteps loved to linger, lie the mortal remains of Rebecca W. Gleason, wife of Benjamin Gleason, of Boston, and daughter of William Maxwell, of Bedford, Dec. 10, 1846, aged 63 years.

Benjamin Gleason, Sept. 18, 1847, aged 70 years.

In memory of Mrs. Ruth Gleason, wife of Mr. Jonas Gleason, April 3, 1793, aged 46 years and 9 months.

Here in this silent cave  
Lies our beloved friend,  
A wife so near and mother dear,  
To lie till time shall end.  
And at the call of God we trust  
She will arise among the just.

In memory of Mrs. Hannah Goodridge, wife of Capt. William Goodridge, Jan 20, 1819, aged 57 years.

William Hartwell, Dec. 11, 1742, in ye 72d year of his age.

[He was the second on the list of laymen who founded the church, and very active and benevolent in the formation of the town.]



Mrs. Ruth (wid. of William Hartwell), Feb. 7, 1752, in ye 77th year of her age.

Mr. Stephen Hartwell, July 12, 1792, aged 76 years.

A span is all we can boast,  
An inch or two of time.

Naomi S., wife of Joseph Hartwell, 3d, May 5, 1840, aged 33 years.

Adlictions sore long time I bore,  
Physicians were in vain,  
Till God did please and death did seize,  
To ease me of my pain.

Mr. Benjamin Hutchinson, March 13, 1780, aged 80 years. Sarah, his wife, April 12, 1767, aged 66 years.

John, son of Benjamin and Sarah Hutchinson, Sept. 1, 1749, aged 13 years.

Mr. Benjamin Hutchinson, March 5, 1815, aged 91 years.

Glory with all her lamps shall burn,  
To watch the Christian's sleeping clay,  
Till the last trumpet rouse his urn  
To aid the triumphs of that day.

Mrs. Rebecca, his wife, May 21, 1814, aged 91 years.

Miss Susannah, their daughter, June 4, 1815, aged 61 years.

Mary Hayward, Jan. 29, 1865, aged 74 years.

Castalia Hosmer, Oct. 29, 1869, aged 83 years.

Ruth, his wife, Aug. 13, 1819, aged 67 years.

Sarah Hosmer, obt. March 18, 1820, aged 8 years 3 months.

'Tis done, her soul to heaven has fled,  
And she is numbered with the dead.  
Her sorrows, pain, and grief are o'er,  
And she from friends will part no more.

Mr. William Hartwell, May, 8, 1819, in the 49th year of his age.

Stop, friends, and drop a tear,  
Here lies a friend and partner dear;  
God called him to his home,  
And laid him silent in the tomb.

In memory of Mrs. Mary, widow of William Hartwell, Jan. 4, 1851, aged 71.

Weep not for her whose troubles now are past,  
Whose day of sorrow, pain, and death is o'er,  
Whose spirit, freed from every bond at last,  
Has found its home where death can come no more.

Mrs. Joanna, wife of Mr. William Hartwell, Oct. 30, 1808, aged 39.

Ye mourners, weep no more for me,  
For I am gone to eternity.  
My flesh shall rest beneath the ground  
Till the last trumpet's joyful sound.

In memory of Mr. Caldwell F. Hindman, of Boston, Nov. 22, 1835, aged 31.

[The first white stone erected in the yard.]

Erected to the memory of Anna P. Hindman, widow of Caldwell F. Hindman, Dec. 3, 1872, aged 82 years 7 months.

In memory of Mrs. Susanna Hill, wife of Mr. Josiah Hill, Feb. 15, 1818, aged 50 years.

The grave of all the saints he blessed,  
And softened every bed;  
Where should the dying members rest  
But with the dying head?

Lucy Hill, daughter of Mr. Josiah and Mrs. Susanna Hill, Sept. 25, 1807, aged 5 years.

Lucy Hill, July 30, 1801, aged 7 months 19 days.

In memory of Miss Lydia Hartwell, daughter of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Jemima Hartwell, Feb. 13, 1788, aged 30 years.

Friends nor physicians could not save  
My mortal body from the grave;  
Nor can the grave confine me here  
When Christ the Son of God appear.

Mr. Joseph Hartwell, July 7, 1792, aged 69.

Present, useful: absent, wanted;  
Lived desired, and died lamented.

Mrs. Jemima, wife of Mr. Joseph Hartwell, July 13, 1786, aged 56.

The tears must fall,  
The tender sigh must rise,  
But hope, on virtue built,  
Shall reach the skies.

Joseph, son of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Jemima Hartwell, Sept. 28, 1753, aged 1 year 4 months.

Mr. John Hartwell, Nov. 16, A.D. 1746, in ye 74th year of his age.

Mrs. Deborah, wife to Mr. John Hartwell, who departed this life June 14, 1744, in the 68th year of her age.

Mrs. Desire, widow of Mr. Samuel Hartwell, Aug. 30, 1824, aged 68 years 2 months.

Mr. Samuel Hartwell, who died April 2, 1823, aged 67 years.

The happy soul who conquers sin  
Shall everlasting glory win;  
Shall see the end of care and pain,  
And with the King of Glory reign.

Rebekah Heartwell, wife of Mr. Stephen Heartwell, Aug. 13, A.D. 1790, aged 79 years.

Jesus, in thy sweet arms I trust,  
Now shall I safely sleep;  
My body falling to the dust,  
I leave with thee to keep.

Children and friends, all that pass by,  
Stop, think are you prepared to die;  
If you have tasted heavenly love,  
You need not fear the lonely grave.

Mrs. Abigail Hartwell, May 30, 1733, in ye 38th year of her age.

Joseph Hartwell, Aug. 3, 1840, aged 78 years.  
Elizabeth, widow of Joseph Hartwell, Aug. 16, 1845, aged 78.

Rachel, wife of Stephen Haynes, Sept. 19, 1847, aged 31.

Horatio Nelson Haynes, Feb. 23, 1847, aged 27.

John Isaac Jones, July 13, 1814, aged 18.

Death is a debt to nature due;  
I've paid that debt, and so must you.

Timothy Jones, Esq., June 1, 1804, aged 55.

The sweet remembrance of the just  
Shall flourish when they sleep in dust.

Mrs. Rebekah, wife of Timothy Jones, Esq., Aug. 13, 1807, aged 58.

Friends and physicians could not save  
My mortal body from the grave.

Susanna P. Jones, wife of Mr. Timothy Jones, June 26, 1820, aged 34.

Timothy, son of Mr. Timothy and Mrs. Susanna Jones, Feb. 23, 1821, aged 14 years.

Like roses eeropt before their bloom,  
He's carried to the silent tomb.

Isaac, son of Capt. Timothy Jones and Mrs. Rebekah, his wife, Jan. ye 27, 1788, aged 6 years and 1 month.

Mrs. Hannah, wife of Mr. Benjamin Kidder, July 5, 1752, aged 48 years.

Mrs. Katherine, wife of Col. John Lane, April 1, 1731, aged 39 years.

[The oldest tombstone is believed to be that of Mrs. Katherine Lane. She was daughter of Samuel Whiting, of Billerica.]

Col. John Lane, Sept. 23, 1763, aged 72.

While I lye buried deep in dust,  
My flesh shall be thy care;  
These withering limbs with thee I trust,  
To raise them strong and fair.

[He was grandson of Job, who had the Winthrop farm.]

Mrs. Hannah, widow of Col. John Lane, April 22, 1769, aged 73.

Mr. Job Lane, Sept. 19, 1744, aged 77 years.

[He was founder of the second Lane family in Bedford, and came to this locality about 1700.]

Mrs. Mary, widow of Job Lane, Sept. 7, 1746, aged 65 years.

Samuel, son of Job and Mary Lane, Nov. 25, 1736, aged 21 years.

Dea. Job Lane, Aug. 9, 1762, aged 73 years.

[He was deacon of the church from Feb. 9, 1738, till death; he was a son of Col. John.]

Martha, his wife, Sept. 14, 1740, aged 49 years.

[First wife of Dea. Job.]

Capt. James Lane, April 11, 1783, aged 87 years.

Death, steady to his purpose from ye womb,  
Pursues till we are driven to the tomb.  
O reader, wisely lay this thought to heart,  
And seek an interest in the better part;  
Then when you close in death your mortal eyes,  
Your soul may rise and reign above the skies.

[Son of Col. John.]

Ruth (Bowman), wife of Mr. John Lane, Aug. 13, 1759, aged 35 years.

Mr. John Lane, Dec. 7, 1789, aged 69 years.

A span is all that we can boast,  
An inch or two of time;  
Man is but vanity and dust,  
In all his flower and prime.  
My days are spent, my race is run;  
Remember me, though dead and gone,  
Cease my beloved to complain,  
My sleeping dust shall rise again.

Mrs. Martha, first wife of Capt. James Lane, July 3, A.D. 1762, aged 64.

Mrs. Chary (Wellington), second wife of Capt. James Lane, Dec. 16, 1764, aged 70 years.

Mrs. Abigail (Farmer), third wife of Capt. James Lane, Feb. 25, 1773, aged 77 years.

Mrs. Abigail, late and fourth wife of Capt. James Lane, formerly the wife of Lieut. John Merriam, Nov. 5, 1793, aged 83 years.

David Lane, A.M., son of James and Martha Lane, who deceased abroad, Sept. 29, A.D. 1750, in ye 23d year of his age.

[Shattuck says he died in the French war, in 1753.]

Mr. Samuel Lane, Jan. 26, 1780, aged 65 years.

Simple manners, a charitable temper. Industry and uprightness were adorned by a Christian profession and practice, and inspired an humble hope of a happy immortality.

The memory of the just is blessed.

Eliab B. Lane, Jan. 9, 1853, aged 73 years.

Hear instruction and be wise.

Anna, wife of Eliab B. Lane, May 30, 1844, aged 67.

Now, therefore, hearken unto me, O ye children;  
For blessed are they that keep my ways.

Mr. Luke Lane, Aug. 27, 1801, aged 33.  
 Luke Lane, Feb. 15, 1850, aged 58.  
 Mr. James Lane, Oct. 20, 1836, aged 83.  
 Mrs. Molly, relict of Mr. James Lane, Feb. 16, 1848, aged 96 years and 8 months.  
 Mr. James Lane, Jan. 4, 1799, aged 73.  
 Mr. Solomon Lane, Feb. 1, 1837, aged 80.

Ah! warm affection cannot save  
 From pain and sickness and the grave;  
 But power divine our soul shall raise,  
 In endless life God's love to praise.

Mrs. Sarah, wife of Mr. Solomon Lane, Aug. 13, 1825, aged 69.

Draw near, my friends, and take a thought,  
 How soon the grave must be your lot;  
 Make sure of Christ while life remain,  
 And death shall be your eternal gain.

Mr. Josiah S. Lane, Sept. 21, 1815, aged 28 years.

Josiah S., only child of Mr. Josiah and Mrs. Amitia Lane, Sept. 22, 1815, aged 21 months.

They've fought the fight, their race is run,  
 Their joys in heaven are now begun;  
 Their tears are gone, their sorrows flee,  
 No more afflicted now like me.

Miss Sally Lane, Nov. 7, 1854, aged 65.

Mrs. Hannah, wife of Mr. Samuel Lane, died Sept. 29, 1796, aged 57 years.

Retire, my friends, dry up your tears,  
 Here I must lie till Christ appears.

Solomon Lane, March 23, 1812, aged 56 years.  
 Mr. Timothy Lane, Dec. 3, 1793, aged 72 years.  
 Mrs. Lydia, relict of Mr. Timothy Lane, Aug. 31, 1801, aged 72 years.

Mr. Isaac Lane, Nov. 24, 1803, aged 37 years.  
 Mr. Job, son of Mr. David and Mrs. Molly Lane, Nov. 15, 1814, aged 26 years.

Mrs. Molly, wife of Mr. David Lane, Dec. 12, 1820, aged 50 years 6 months.

Farewell, my friends, I sleep in dust,  
 Till the last trump awakes the just;  
 Therefore retire, and cease your tears,  
 Prepare to meet when Christ appears.

Mr. David Lane, Sept. 10, 1842, aged 83 years.  
 Mrs. Phoebe, wife of Mr. David Lane, July 8, 1838, aged 65 years.

David Lane, Jr., Jan. 19, 1853, aged 56 years.  
 James Lane, Dec. 17, 1859, aged 60 years.  
 Here lies ye body of Benjamin, son of Dea. Job and Mrs. Martha Lane, Jan. 25, 1754, in the 25th year of his age.

Mr. Jonathan Lane, March 4, 1808, aged 44 years.

Roger Lane, first son of Mr. John and Mrs. Ruhamah Lane, Nov. 16, 1794, aged 16 months.

Abner, son of Mr. John and Mrs. Ruhamah Lane, Aug. 9, 1826, aged 24 years.

Gracy Foster, daughter of Mr. John and Mrs. Ruhamah Lane, Nov. 16, 1806, aged 30 years.

Mr. John Lane, Feb. 22, 1808, aged 62 years.

Mrs. Ruhamah, his wife, April 30, 1817, aged 63 years.

Mrs. Ruth, wife of Mr. Samuel Lane, Oct. 21, 1772, aged 32 years.

Myra, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Lane, May 2, 1801, aged 5 months.

Rollin, son of Jonathan and Hannah Lane, Jan. 9, 1800, aged 4 years.

Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah Lane, Jan. 15, 1800, aged 7 months.

Josiah Lane, son of John and Sarah, March 5, 1762.

In memory of Galen, son of Mr. Eliab and Mrs. Anna Lane, Nov. 24, 1811, aged 7 months.

Ruhamah, daughter of Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Ruhamah Lane, April 10, 1817.

Jonathan A., son of Mr. Jonathan and Mrs. Ruhamah Lane, Aug. 24, 1820.

Three children of Mr. Solomon Lane:

Josiah, April 8, 1787.

Enoch, Oct. 11, 1799.

Abigail French, July 17, 1800.

Lieut. John Merriam, Sept. 20, 1767, aged 67 years.\*

But Christ shall change my sinful dust,  
 The grave shall rot off all my rust;  
 This body of mine shall fashioned be  
 Like to his own in its degree.

Mrs. Esther, amiable comfort of Lieut. William Merriam, March 17, 1785, aged 33 years 9 months 8 days.

That face that none unmoved could view  
 Has lost the enchanting rosy hue;  
 Dwelt faith and wit in sweetness there,  
 O view the change and drop a tear.

Capt. John Moore (son of John Moore), Sept. 27, 1807, aged 78 years.

Glory with all her lamps shall burn,  
 To watch the Christian's sleeping urn,  
 Till the last trumpet cause his urn  
 To aid the triumph of the day.

[He was captain of the militia of the town, was at Concord fight, and active during the Revolution.]

Mary, first wife of Capt. John Moore, July 6, 1797, aged 73 years.

Mary, second wife of Capt. John Moore, April 2, 1806, aged 76 years.

[She was the widow of James Lane, Jr., and formerly Mary Wellington.]

Dea. Nathaniel Merriam, Dec. 11, 1738, aged 66 years.

The memory of the just is blessed.

[He was one of the first selectmen; he bequeathed five pounds to the church, of which he was a deacon from Aug. 4, 1730, till death.]

Elizabeth, wife of Mr. John Moore, March 18, 1732, aged 25 years.

Mr. John Moore, Aug. 21, 1765, aged 58 years.

[His death was occasioned by a fall from a load of hay when entering the barn.]

Mrs. Elizabeth (Wheeler), second wife of John Moore, Feb. 2, 1745.

The sin of Adam hath laid me low,  
For sin hath wrought an overthrow;  
From dust I came, to dust I come,  
And now the dust 's become my home;  
When Christ comes down with saints to reign,  
The dust me no more shall detain.

Hugh Maxwell, March 19, 1759, aged 59 years.

My body turned into dust,  
My dust it shall arise,  
In resurrection of the just,  
To sound Jehovah's praise.

[He came from Belfast, Ire.; was killed by a fall from his horse.]

William Maxwell, May 10, 1832, aged 79 years.

Mrs. Sarah, his wife, April 21, 1833, aged 76 years.

Rhoda Maxwell, born April 25, 1794, died Dec. 8, 1875.

Desire Mead, wife of Mr. Stephen Mead (Desire Bachelder), and former wife of Mr. Joseph Brown, Sept. 9, 1797, aged 59 years.

Anna Mead, Jan. 19, 1818, aged 49.

Refrain, my friends, and dry your tears,  
Here I must lay till Christ appears.

Stephen Mead, Jan. 30, 1808, aged 71.

John Mead, Jan. 12, 1799, aged 22.

Mrs. Amittai Neuton, Aug. 29, 1756, aged 25 years.

Mr. Joseph Pulsifer, of Boston, June 3, 1815, aged 25 years.

Reader, if love of worth thy bosom warm,  
If virtue please thee, or if friendship charm,  
Upon this stone you'll drop a tear;  
Worth, virtue, friendship, all are buried here.

Mr. Joseph Porter, July 13, 1770, aged 52 years.

Although I sleep in dust awhile,  
Beneath the barren clay,  
E're long I hope to rise and smile,  
To see my Saviour God.

Sacred to the memory of Mr. Joseph Porter,

son of Mr. William and Mrs. Lucy Porter, June 14, 1811, aged 21.

Mrs. Anna Page, relict of Mr. Thomas Page, July 10, 1810, aged 73 years.

From scenes of woe with sorrow prest  
She's bid adieu, and gone to rest.

William Page, Feb. 10, 1812, aged 74 years.

[They were the founders of the Page fund.]

Pattey, wife of William Page, April 14, 1809, aged 69.

Thomas Page, July 31, 1809, aged 76.

Cornet John Page, Feb. 18, 1782, aged 78 years.

[Erected by Cyrus Page, in 1883.]

Cornet Nathaniel Page, March 2, 1755, aged 76 years.

[He was son of Nathaniel, 1st.]

Mrs. Susanna (Lane, daughter of Col. John, 2d), his wife, Sept. 2, 1746, aged 63 years.

Cornet Nathaniel Page, April 6, 1779, aged 76 years.

Death from all death has set us free,  
And will our gain forever be;  
Death loosed the rusty chain of woe,  
To let the mournful captives go.

[He was a Minute Man in 1775, and an energetic patriot in the cause of freedom.]

Mr. Ebenezer Page, June 9, 1784, aged 47 years.

Dorothy Page, wife of Mr. Ebenezer Page, Feb. 6, 1779, aged 41 years.

March 26, 1754, Lucy Page, aged 2 years.

March 28, 1754, Susanna Page, aged 3 years 2 months 20 days.

April 7, 1754, Job Page, aged 5 years 10 months 7 days.

Children of Mr. Christopher and Susanna Page.

[A triple stone suggests the ravages of throat distemper in this family of the town.]

Widow Sarah Parker, formerly the wife of Mr. John Lane, March 5, 1814, aged 88 years.

Vain world, farewell to you,  
Heaven is my native air;  
I bid my friends a short adieu,  
Impatient to be there.

Pierce monument:

George Pierce, Aug. 24, 1870, aged 42 years.

George N. Pierce, March 24, 1848, aged 31 years.

Augustus Pierce, May 6, 1846, aged 30.

Page monument:

Nathaniel Page, Aug. 30, 1858, aged 83 years.

Lydia, wife of Nathaniel Page, Jan. 24, 1852, aged 79 years.

In memory of Benjamin Page, Jan. 13, 1848, aged 34. Two children of Benjamin and Mary C. Page.

Mr. Samuel Page, member of the junior class of Dartmouth College, N.H., Jan. 31, 1839, aged 22 years.

Nathaniel, son of Mr. Nathaniel Page, Jr., and Mrs. Lucy Page, his wife, April 10, 1808, aged 11 months.

Mr. Nathaniel Page, July 31, 1819, aged 77.

Mrs. Sarah, wife of Mr. Nathaniel Page, Aug. 22, 1834, aged 92.

Isaac F. Page, Nov. 21, 1841, aged 39 years.

Capt. John Page, June 29, 1848, aged 81 years.

Esther, wife of Capt. John Page, Dec. 21, 1852, aged 81 years.

Mr. Christopher Page, son of Nathaniel, 2d, Nov. 11, 1786, aged 80 years.

Mrs. Susanna, relict of Mr. Christopher Page, July ye 20, 1792, in ye 83d year of her age.

The sweet remembrance of the just  
Shall flourish when they sleep in dust.

[She was formerly the widow of Benjamin Webber, of Medford, and daughter of Whitmore.]

In memory of Mrs. Lydia, wife of Capt. Christopher Page, Feb. 20, 1808, aged 64.

Betsey B., wife of Silas W. Page, June 25, 1842, aged 37.

John H., Feb. 27, 1841, aged 18 months.

Susanna, May 4, 1841, aged 4 years 6 months.

Children of Betsey B. and Silas W. Page.

Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Hannah, wife of Dr. Amariah Preston, Feb. 8, 1795, in the 26th year of her age.

Hark! hear my dear Redeemer's voice,  
My soul must hence remove;  
Farewell to all those earthly joys,  
And haste away to realms above.

In memory of Hannah, daughter of Dr. Amariah Preston, Aug. 8, 1810, aged 15 years.

Dea. Israel Putnam, Nov. ye 12, 1760, aged 62 years.

[He was one of the first deacons, foundation member of the church, and gave the land for the burial ground.]

In memory of Mr. Jonas Putnam, March 10, 1818, aged 32.

Death with his dart has pierced my heart  
When I was in my prime.

Mr. Oliver Pollard, May 28, 1831, aged 94 years.

Mrs. Oliver Pollard, Feb. 20, 1840, aged 94 years and 4 months.

To them the solemn hour has come,  
And life's short space is o'er;  
They both have reached their final home,  
Where they shall part no more.

Mr. Matthew Pollard, Nov. 15, 1804, aged 52 years.

Stranger, as this spot you tread,  
And meditate upon the dead,  
Improve the moments as they fly,  
For all who live must shortly die.

Mrs. Rebecca Quimby, July 8, 1820, aged 25 years 5 months.

All earthly scenes are quickly o'er,  
For transient is their date;  
Midst all our joys we oft deplore  
The cruel stroke of fate;  
But stop each fond parental tear,  
And each fraternal sigh,  
She's freed from all her troubles here,  
To dwell with God on high.

John Reed, Esq., Nov. 20, 1805, aged 75 years.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.  
That they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.

[He was an influential man, a member of the Continental Congress at Concord and Cambridge in 1775, and took an active part in the war of the Revolution. His name appears on a family memorial erected in Shaw-shine Cemetery in 1890.]

Jesse Robinson, Dec. 1, 1842, aged 76 years.

Rebecca, wife of Jesse Robinson, Aug. 3, 1863, aged 86 years 6 months.

Miss Mary Robinson, June 9, 1833, aged 20 years.

Draw near, my friends, and take a thought,  
How soon the grave must be your lot;  
Make sure of Christ while life remain,  
And death shall be your eternal gain.

Miss Martha Robinson, Aug. 7, 1840, aged 21 years.

Stay, thou passing maiden, stay!  
Learn how earthly joys decay!  
Here three lovely sisters sleep;  
Read their fate, and, reading, weep.

Eliza Robinson, born Dec. 27, 1809, died Sept. 16, 1871.

Life to thee was but a burden,  
Sister, thou art gone to rest;  
Yes, we trust thou art in heaven,  
The place awaiting all the blest.

Mrs. Abi, wife of Mr. David Rice, Oct. 30, 1820, aged 31.

Oliver Reed, Aug. 15, 1837, aged 81.

Mary, second wife of Oliver Reed, May 31, 1812, aged 32.

Mrs. Betsey, wife of Mr. Oliver Reed, Jr., Oct. 22, 1802, aged 45.

Stop, passenger, as you pass by;  
As you are now, so once was I.  
As I am now, so you will be;  
Prepare for death, and follow me.

Mrs. Abigail, wife of Capt. David Reed, Sept. 1, 1803, aged 41 years.

She is fled, the loveliest mind,  
Faith, sweetness, wit, together joined ;  
Dwell faith and wit and sweetness there ;  
Oh, view the change, and drop a tear !

Erected in memory of Mrs. Hannah, wife of Capt. David Reed, April 29, 1790, aged 39 years.

Martha S., wife of Nathan O. Reed, March 22, 1841, aged 24 years.

Eliot, daughter of John Reed, Esq., and Mrs. Ruhamah (Brown), his wife, Aug. 24, 1780, in the 16th year of her age.

How uncertain this life ! How little did I expect to die so young ! Dear youth, remember my sudden death ; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

Grace Page, daughter of John Reed, Esq., and Mrs. Ruhamah, his wife, Sept. 16, 1778, in the 19th year of her age.

From death's arrest no age is free, as beholders may see ; and now, dear youth, brothers, sisters, and friends, all prepare to come, for sure you must, and mingle with me in the dust.

Mrs. Ruhamah (Brown) Reed, wife of John Reed, Esq., Jan. 9, 1798, in the 68th year of her age.

Roger Reed, June 8, 1844, aged 82.

Sarah, his wife, Feb. 8, 1849, aged 83.

Oliver Reed, Sept. 18, 1811, in the 83d year of his age.

Betsey, daughter of Mr. Reuben and Mrs. Mary Reed, May 3, 1813, aged 3 years and 8 months.

Amanda Reed, Sept. 15, 1846, aged 26.

Melvina Reed, July 18, 1844, aged 21.

Mrs. Sarah Randall, March 2, 1821, aged 44 years.

Elijah Skelton, Jan. 30, 1852, aged 68.

Remember that you, too, must die.

Mrs. Sarah, wife Elijah Skelton, Dec. 31, 1873, aged 87 years 11 months 1 day.

Precious in the sight of the Lord  
Is the death of his saints.

[She had been gone from this town many years, but remembered the Church of Christ in her last will.

Sarah, daughter of Elijah and Sarah Skelton, Feb. 4, 1852, aged 33 years.

Edwin, son of Elijah and Sarah Skelton, April 11, 1849, aged 28. In memory of five infant children of Elijah and Sarah Skelton.

Mrs. Louisa, wife of Mr. Elias Skelton, July 2, 1836, aged 24.

Samuel, their son, Oct. 18, 1832, aged 4 months.

A wife and child have gone to their rest,  
And why should the soul of the mourners be sad ?  
Faith tells they have gone where the weary are blest,  
And the spirit of hope looks up and is glad.

Mr. Solomon, son of Capt. Edward and Mrs. Lucy Stearns, May 18, 1775, aged 19 years.

[He was at Concord fight, April 19, 1775, and in the camp at Cambridge, where he contracted the disease from which he died.]

Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Elijah Stearns, Esq., and Elizabeth, his wife, July 12, 1818, aged 11 years.

Lieut. Edward Stearns, May 18, 1798, aged 30 years.

God my Redeemer lives, and often from the skies  
Looks down and watches all my dust,  
Till he shall bid me rise.

Capt. Edward Stearns, June ye 11, 1793, aged 68 years.

Here in this grave, this silent cave,  
Lies our beloved friend,  
A husband near, a father dear,  
To lie till time shall end.

Then at the call of God he shall arise, no more to die,  
And, as we trust, among the just spend an eternity.

Mrs. Lucy, wife of Capt. Edward Stearns, Nov. 28, 1802, aged 69 years.

Here sleeps our mother in the dust ;  
So we e'er long, her children, must,  
When God sees fit to call us hence,  
To leave this world of flesh and sense.

Here lies the bodies of two children of Capt. Edward Stearns and Mrs. Lucy, his wife :

Edward, May ye 24, 1768, in the 8th year of his age.

Here lies bones of Edward Stearns. His soul, I trust, rests in Christ's arms. Then he shall rise out of the ground.

Lucy, May ye 20, 1768, in the 13th year of her age.

The body of a lovely maid  
Lies buried in her silent grave ;  
And in it doth take quiet rest,  
As if of beds it were the best.

Betsey D., relict of William Stearns, July 27, 1844, aged 61 years.

Betsey, wife of Noah Stearns, Sept. 17, 1842, aged 71.

Mr. John Sprague, March 4, 1810, aged 51.

John Sprague, Jr., eldest son of Mr. John and Mrs. Phebe Sprague, May 21, 1805, aged 16 years 6 months.

Sally Sprague, second daughter of Mr. John and Mrs. Phebe Sprague, April 25, 1805, aged 18 years.

Mrs. Sophia, wife of Mr. Abel Shed, Feb. 20, 1821, aged 41 years.

Mrs. Jane (Pollard), widow of Thomas Smith, Feb. 29, 1868, aged 87 years.

Mrs. Eunice, wife of John Taylor, May 7, 1737, aged 81 years.

[She bequeathed the first legacy to the church, &c.]

Miss Elizabeth Thomas, April 6, 1839, aged 72.

[A row of sunken, moss-covered stones suggests the sorrow that befell the Whitmore family during the prevalence of throat distemper.]

Aug. 2, 1743, Ebenezer, aged 2 years 7 months 23 days.

Aug. 29, 1743, John, aged 5 years 10 months 7 days.

Sept. 11, 1745, William, 4 years 5 months 24 days.

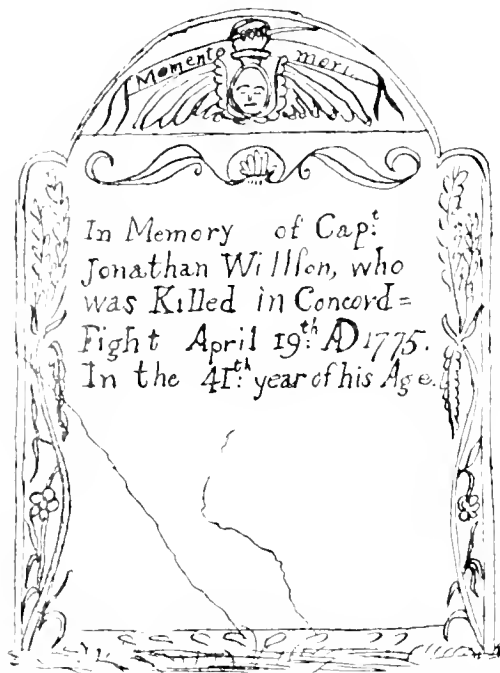
Feb. 16, 1750, Lucy, aged 4 years 3 months 8 days.

Feb. 21, 1750, John, aged 8 months 8 days.

March 4, 1750, Susanna, aged 2 years 7 months 16 days.

April 17, 1750, Martha, aged 7 years 6 months 18 days.

Children of Mr. John and Mrs. Martha Whitmore.



Jonathan Wilson, Sept. 25, 1797, in the 35th year of his age.

Betsey A., wife of George Wilson, Aug. 25, 1876, aged 40.

Mr. John Whitmore, Oct. 25, 1748, aged 37 years.

[He was town clerk from 1746 till death, and a man of great influence.]

Susanna, daughter of Benjamin and Susanna Webber, late of Medford, and granddaughter of Mary and John Whitmore, April 2, 1743, aged 15 years.

Mrs. Mary, relict of Mr. John Whitmore, of Medford, and daughter of John and Susanna Lane of Bedford, March 27, 1783, aged 96 years.

[She killed the Indian. See "Experience of Mary Lane."]

Capt. John Webber, April 29, 1868, aged 75 years.

Mrs. Sarah, his wife, May 9, 1782, aged 38 years.

Mrs. Susannah (Page), second wife, Feb. 5, 1825, aged 75 years.

Mr. William Webber, Sept. 25, 1833, aged 71 years.

An honest man, the noblest work of God.

Mrs. Mary (Abbott), wife of William Webber, March 24, 1817, aged 49 years.

Job Webber, Oct. 10, 1838, aged 69.

Sarah, wife of Job Webber, Jan. 31, 1861, aged 91 years 5 months 12 days.

Miss Eliza F. Webber, Jan. 21, 1839, aged 33.

Gently the passing spirit fled,  
Sustained by grace divine;  
Oh, may such in me be shed,  
And make my end like thine!

Hannah R., daughter of James and Hannah Webber, Sept. 18, 1811, aged 31.

Joseph Thompson, son of Joseph and Eliza Webber, June 1, 1811, aged 15 years 9 months.

Tell mother I am willing to die.

James Webber, May 21, 1852, aged 79.

Mrs. Hannah, wife of James Webber, Jan. 20, 1835, aged 63.

Hiram Webber, Jan. 18, 1857, aged 62 years.

Fidelia, wife of Hiram Webber, April 5, 1834.

Harriet, relict of Samuel Wynman, Nov. 11, 1813, aged 50.

Miss Elizabeth P. Whitford, June 1, 1843, aged 20.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

Ellen Adelia, infant of George W. and Adelia B. Woodward, Sept. 2, 1811, aged 3 weeks.

"It is well." 2 Kings, iv. 26.

Mr. James Wright, March 27, 1826, aged 51 years.

Mrs. Dorcas Wright, his wife, Nov. 22, 1846, aged 71 years.

Mourn not, dear children, though we sleep  
Beneath this cold, damp soil;  
For soon the last, loud trump will sound  
To raise us up to God.

Timothy Page, son of Mr. James Wright and Mrs. Dorcas, his wife, Sept. 22, 1801, aged 20 months.

Miss Margaret, daughter of Mr. James and Mrs. Dorcas Wright, May 10, 1832, aged 20.

Her months of affliction are o'er,  
Her days and nights of distress;  
We see her in anguish no more,  
She's gained a happy release.

Jonathan Woolley, July ye 22, 1766, in the 65th year of his age.

Samuel Woolley, Nov. 25, 1773, in the 70th year of his age.

Dea. James Wright, Dec. 24, 1818, aged 73.

Mrs. Ruth, wife of Dea. James Wright, Jan. 6, 1830, aged 82.

What though to stranger's unaccustomed hand  
'Twas left to smooth life's rough and toilsome road?  
No cold friend's office she now demands,  
A friend, the best of friends, sustains her, God.

Their children:

Ruth, Sept. 15, 1775, aged 7.

Sally, Sept. 1, 1775, aged 4.

The absence of head-stones to the memory of many prominent citizens may be accounted for by the erection of family tombs. John Reed and John Merriam, Esq., erected a tomb for their families in August, 1795, and Capt. Robert Pulsiter in 1824.

Thirteen tombs were built in 1826, and purchased by families as follows:—

No. 1. Eleazer Davis, Sampson Spaulding, and Amos Hartwell. The Davis family were removed to Shawsheen Cemetery. The Spaulding family were deposited in one common grave in the Old Burial Ground, where a granite tablet may be seen, erected by Mrs. Martha R. S. Norris, of Iowa, on which is "Sampson Spaulding and Family."

No. 2. Josiah Hill.

No. 3. Mr. Jacob Gragg and Capt. Timothy Page.

No. 4. Mrs. Jonathan Lane and Mrs. Stephen Lane.

No. 5. Benjamin Simonds.

No. 6. Uriah and Thomas Goodwin.

No. 7. Mather Hayward and Joshua Page.

No. 8. Capt. David Reed.

No. 9. Dea. M. Crosby and Jeremiah Fitch.

No. 10. Job Lane, John Wheeler, and Simeon Blodgett.

No. 11. Samuel Sage, John B. Wilson, David Rice, and Francis Wilson.

No. 12. Rev. Samuel Stearns and E. Stearns, Esq.

No. 13. A. Preston, Esq., M. Cutler, and Benjamin Bacon.

The following are from "Shawsheen" Cemetery:—

1770. Rev. Samuel Stearns, 1834. Born in Epping, N.H.; graduated from Harvard College; ordained over the Church of Christ in Bedford, April 27, 1796. Died Dec. 26, 1834, in the 65th year of his age and 39th of his ministry.

An earnest preacher, a faithful pastor, a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost.

Mrs. Abigail Stearns, wife of Rev. Samuel Stearns, daughter of Rev. Samuel French, of Andover. Born May 29, 1776; died Dec. 2, 1858, in the 83d year of her age.

Wise and good, respected and beloved, she sleeps in Jesus, and her memory is precious.

Josiah A. Stearns, A.M., Ph.D., son of Rev. Samuel Stearns. Born Sept. 1, 1812; died Sept. 8, 1883.

For thirty-nine years in the service of the city of Boston, as usher in the Adams and head-master of the Mather, Lawrence, and Norcross schools.

Peter, a Revolutionary soldier, freed slave of Rev. Josiah Stearns, Epping, N.H., faithful hired servant of Rev. Samuel Stearns. Born 1750, died 1807.

A good Christian.

[Peter "Freeman" served in the Revolution, was freed by his master, Rev. Josiah Stearns, of New Hampshire, whose son, Rev. Samuel, met him in Boxford, Mass., many years after, and took him to his home and cared for him till death. He was buried near the door of the tomb where the body of Rev. Samuel Stearns lay for many years.]

Jonathan Lane, fifth generation from Job Lane, the head of the family in this country. Born in Bedford, Jan. 27, 1788. Removed to Boston in 1824. Returned to his native town in 1847, and died Nov. 12, 1860, aged 72.

[Simple, earnest, charitable; a genial friend, a liberal citizen, an humble Christian.

Ruhamah, wife of Jonathan Lane, daughter of Nathaniel and Sarah Page. Born in Bedford,



May 1, 1788; married July 27, 1815, and survived her beloved husband twenty-two years.

By her strong, attractive, and original character, became a conspicuous and honored representative of the two families. She died June 19, 1882, aged 94 years.

Samuel W., son of Jonathan and Ruhamah Lane. Died March 25, 1856, aged 35 years.

A dutiful son and affectionate brother, a faithful, generous friend. Born in Bedford, early removed to Boston. He was there known for uprightness, sincerity, and truth; for kindness to the poor, sympathy with the unfortunate and oppressed, and for a consistent Christian life. The active service of which he has exchanged for the "Rest of the people of God."

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### *Houses and Farms.*

[The author's purpose in this section is to locate the founders of the town in their respective homes, and show the subdivisions of farms. The estates are designated by the present or recent ownership, in order to accommodate the student.]

Each of these landlords walked amidst his farm,  
Saying, "'Tis mine, my children's, and my name's;  
How sweet the west wind sounds in my own trees!  
How grateful climb those shadows on my hill!  
I fancy these pure waters and the flags  
Know me, as does my dog; we sympathize;  
And, I affirm, my actions smack of the soil."

Where are these men?—Asleep beneath their grounds;  
And strangers, fond as they, their furrows plough.

EMERSON.



How dear to this heart are the scenes of my childhood,  
When fond recollection presents them to view!

WOODWORTH.

Mrs. LAWRENCE'S ESTATE, or *Domine Manse*. When the scattered settlers had secured the incorporation of the town of Bedford, in the autumn of 1729, they set about building a meeting-house, and called a preacher. The act of incorporation required them, within three years, "to settle an Orthodox minister of good conversation, and provide for his support."

Rev. Nicholas Bowes was ordained as the first minister in June, 1730. The town gave him a

settlement fee of £200, agreeable to custom, besides his annual salary. He took sixteen acres of land, at £8 per acre, in part for his "settlement." On this land he built his mansion, and with his young bride, the beautiful and accomplished daughter of Rev. John Hancock, of Lexington, began the work of a New England clergyman of one hundred and sixty years ago.

Dressed in powdered wig and short clothes, with silver knee and shoe buckles glistening in the sun, he moved among his people as the man of all to be respected. Injudicious parol work, however, brought an end to his usefulness, in 1751, and he entered the service of the colony as chaplain in the army during the French and Indian wars, and died at Brookfield on his way home.

His oldest daughter became the wife of Rev. Jonas Clark, of Lexington, and as such was the entertainer of John Hancock and Samuel Adams at the Lexington parsonage, when they were warned of their danger by the midnight call of Paul Revere.

The old manse was sold by the heirs of the deceased minister to John Reed, Esq., in 1767. Here he and his young wife, Ruhamah Brown, instituted the Reed family of Bedford. Seven children were born to them in this mansion, and reared after the true New England style. The principles of patriotism were faithfully inculcated by parents who looked at the vital questions of their day from the standpoint of superior intellect and deep-seated principle.

The leading townsmen congregated here, and debated the great questions during the years preceding the Revolution. The owner of the place was made one of the committee of inspection, and was the town's mouth-piece in the conventions and congresses that were often held by the dissenting colony. He represented the town in the convention to form the constitution of the state, and until his death, in 1805, was a prominent citizen, and his dwelling and farm formed the leading estate of the town.

The manse then became the property of his son, John, whose widow, Hannah Reed, was in full possession of the estate for several years. At her decease it went to the daughter of her son, Otis, he having died before his mother, Annie Reed, wife of Thomas Stiles, Esq., was of the fourth generation in possession. At her death it became the property of her sister, Mrs. Melvina Reed Lawrence.

The spreading elms that shelter the croquet ground of the sixth generation shaded the mother of the first generation when giving her daugh-

ter lessons at the spinning-wheel one hundred and twenty-three years earlier, and the old wheel stands dumb in the spacious drawing-room where the notes of the piano are substituted for its once busy hum.

The well-kept wainscoting makes an excellent background for the faces in oil that have kept their silent vigil there for more than a century, while in every nook may be seen precious heirlooms of the family.

The old Bible is open at the favorite morning lesson of the hero of the Revolution.—“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil.”

The foot-stove, carried by the young hands of the present owner for her venerable grandmother to the cold meeting-house, is a well-kept relic, decked in ribbons; and the warming-pan stands on the broad staircase as of yore, when it was used to remove the chill from the homespun sheets of a hundred years ago. The traveller of to-day drinks at the “dominic well,” and receives a cordial welcome at this house, as have the hundreds who have gone before him across the same threshold.

**CYRUS PAGE.**—The Page farm in Bedford has been in the family and name two hundred and four years, and been owned by eight successive generations. It was part of a grant from the Colonial Court to Edward Oakes, and sold by him in 1661 to George Farley and others. Farley sold to Timothy Brooks, who at the opening of King Philip's War was directed by the town to secure his family in garrison No. 10, that was near by. Brooks sold to George Grimes, of whom the estate was bought in 1687 by Nathaniel Page, 1st. He had come from England three years before, and early received an appointment from Gov. Joseph Dudley as sheriff or marshal of Suffolk County. Nathaniel Page, 1st, died April 12, 1692, and was succeeded on his farm by his son, Nathaniel, 2d, who was followed by Christopher, John, Nathaniel, 3d, Nathaniel, 4th, and Cyrus, each in his generation. They have all been known in the community as “well-to-do farmers.”

Cyrus, of the seventh generation, and last farmer in possession, died in 1887, and the homestead is now in possession of his heirs. Cyrus Andrew Page, of the Beacon Publishing Company, Boston, is the only living son and male representative of the eighth generation, in present possession. Yet there are members of the ninth generation who have great reverence for their ancestral estate.

The dwelling that has stood fully two centuries has been recently removed to another loca-

tion, and a modern dwelling marks the identical spot where more than fifty of the name of Page have begun life. An elm tree that has sheltered eight generations seems ready to serve several more.

The original farm has been shorn of its acres from time to time. Several farms have been taken from it, and yet there are more than one hundred acres left.

The name of Page was prominent in the history of Billerica, and foremost in the business of incorporating the town of Bedford in 1729. The occupants of this farm have always held important offices in town, and been noted for their candor, stability, and straightforward dealing. The spirit of patriotism was cradled in that dwelling as in but few others. The love of country, town, and home has led the Pages to sacrifice much for public interest. One of the family was a colonel in the French and Indian War, and several were in the ranks. A messenger sent out by Paul Revere alarmed the inmates of that house on the night of April 18, 1775, and aroused Nathaniel, 3d, who left his young wife and babe of a few hours, to serve the colony. Four of the name were in the battle of Concord. Christopher was sergeant of the Minute Men, and the name is seen in various campaigns until the close of the struggle for independence. Timothy was killed at White Plains, N.Y., Oct. 28, 1776.

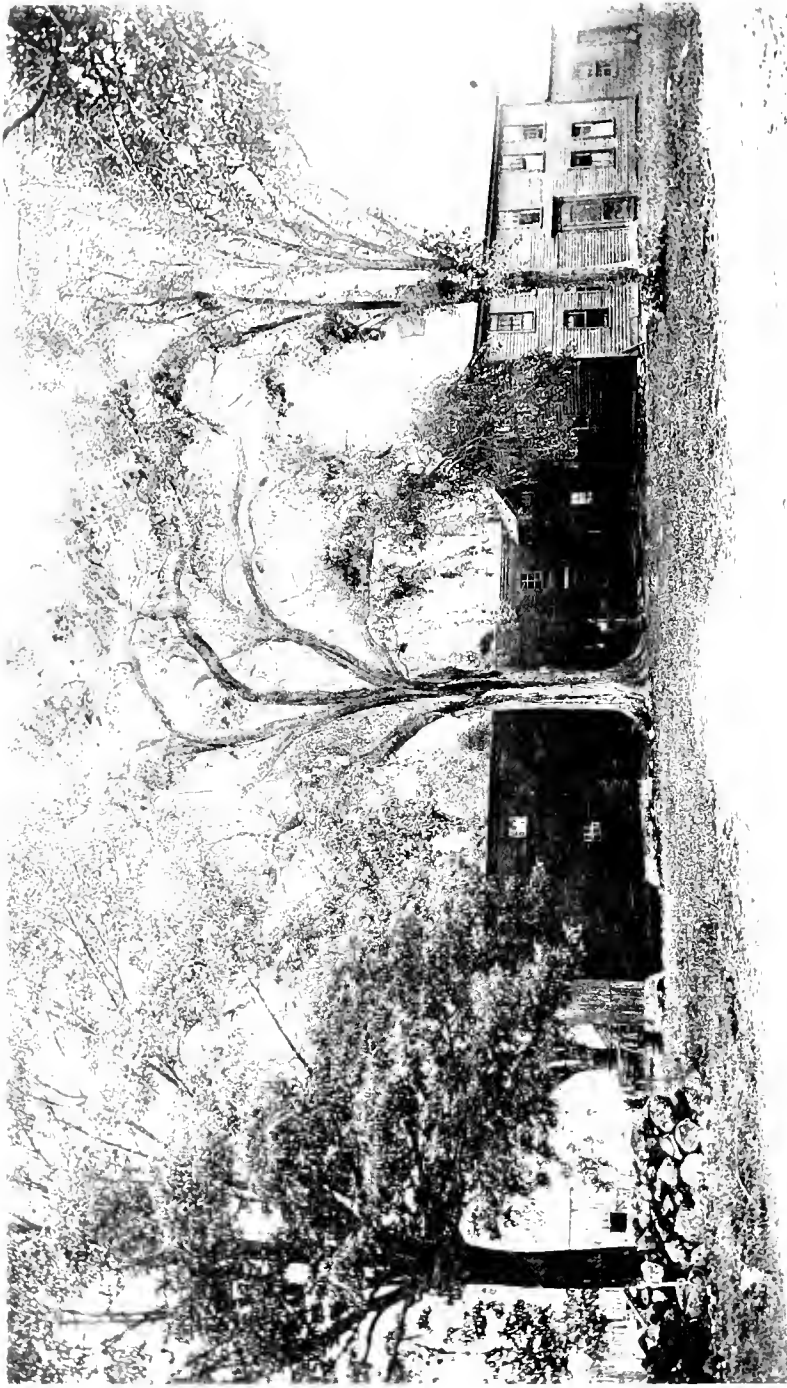
Seven of the family were in the company of militia when they marched to the defence of Boston in 1812. When Sumter was fired upon in 1861, Cyrus, who had served as captain of the militia, then past sixty years of age, followed in the footsteps of his ancestors from that dwelling, and enlisted for three years or the war. Cyrus Page was the town's oracle in local history for more than a half century; he had a wonderful memory, and the towns-people turned to this old mansion for the one who seemed to embody the wisdom of seven generations of Pages.

The old house had sheltered for more than two centuries the colonial banner. In Nathaniel's haste at early dawn of April 19, 1775, he did not fail to carry the standard, which he bore from his home at the head of the Minute Men and in the heat of the struggle of that memorable day. (See military chapter.)

**BENJAMIN JOSIAH DAVIS.**—This estate has been in the family and name almost two centuries.

Dolor Davis came from England about 1634, and was soon followed by his wife and several young children. After living at the new town,





PAGE HOMESTEAD

Cambridge, and later in the Plymouth Colony, the family settled in Concord, Mass., in 1655. Here his three younger children, born in America, married and settled.

Samuel purchased, in 1696, the homestead in the west part of Bedford, then Concord. It was conveyed to Samuel, Sr., by John Jones, Jr., Samuel Hartwell, Sr., Joseph Dean, and Nathaniel Harwood, of Concord. "In the eighth year of the Reine of our Sovereign Lord William the third, by the Grace of God, over England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King and defender of the faith." The original deed is in the present owner's possession.

The dwelling marks the site of the original house. It is on a height of land overlooking the Concord River. It faces the south, after the plan of the pioneers. It has stood for a century and a half, was first painted red, but in recent repairs was given a coat of white.

The homestead has passed through six generations from Samuel, in each of which there has been an Eleazer. The first was born in 1680, the second in 1705-6, the third in 1734, the fourth in 1768, and the fifth in 1805.

The possession has always been in the male line, and until the present, the owner has been Eleazer. The last of the name settled on an adjoining farm, and a brother, Benjamin Josiah who was born in 1810, is the owner.

There is living with Josiah a brother, Samuel, born in 1815. The eighth generation lives on an adjoining farm, and is often seen in the family group. Thirty-eight children, in five generations of the name of Davis, have been born on this estate.

The Davises have been noted in military affairs. Three of the family went from this place with Lovewell in his famous expedition of 1724-5 in pursuit of the Indians to the wilderness of Maine; one, Josiah, lost his life, and Eleazer was maimed for life.

Two of the family were in the French and Indian wars, where Paul lost his life in 1763. Eleazer, 3d, was lieutenant of the company of militia at the opening of the Revolution, and foremost of the Bedford men at the battle of Concord, April 19, 1775.

His commission as lieutenant bears date of April, 1775, and is treasured among the relics of the family, of which there are many in the ancient dwelling.

The sword used by Eleazer at the battle of Concord, and in later campaigns of the war, together with the old flint-lock musket, are kept near the bed of the venerable owner. The musket was used by the family in the Revolution,

and bought by Eleazer, 3d, for eleven pounds two shillings, at a "vendue," in 1778, held by the town to sell its firearms, etc., for the purpose of raising money to pay public demands.

The old "timepiece," fully six feet tall, stands in the same corner where it has stood for more than a century and done faithful service for four generations.

This estate is regarded as remarkably well located for healthfulness. Longevity is noticeable in the family. The present owner now (1890) is fourscore years old, and conducts the business of his large farm in person.

The family has been prominent in the history of the town and church ever since the incorporation, in 1729.

**HOSMER AND MUZZY.**—This was the Hartwell homestead, and is on the Concord side of the town. It originally included about two hundred and forty-seven acres, and fell to William Hartwell in the allotment of common ground about 1666. The present dwelling was erected in 1758, and sold, with a portion of the land, by Joseph Hartwell, of the sixth generation, to the parents of the present owners. Other farms have been taken from the Hartwell allotment, and a good portion of the forest land is still retained in the family.

**WILLIAM PARKER.**—This estate, and those between it and Concord line, were in the Wheeler name about a century. It is probable that the whole land was included in the twenty-nine lots of three hundred and fifty-seven acres taxed to Joseph Wheeler in 1666. Richard Wheeler is mentioned in the petition for a new town in 1728. Richard, Joseph, and Jonathan Wheeler are all mentioned as land owners in this vicinity in the description of the boundaries of the new town in 1729. The last house on the Bedford side of the line was an early "block house," and probably erected by a Wheeler before the year 1700. William Page, born in 1737, married Patte Hill in 1763, settled on this farm, occupying the Wheeler house. He died in 1812, and the estate went to his nephew, Mather Hayward, who came from Boxboro, married Lucy Page in May, 1800, and settled here. The dwelling opposite the Wheeler house was originally Page's cider-mill, and turned into a dwelling by Ebenezer, son of Mather Hayward. William, son of Mather Hayward, built the William Parker house, and carried on farming there for a series of years. George M. Parker built the modern house standing on the farm.

**ELEAZER P. DAVIS.**—Patrick Murry, Stephen Haynes, and the other small estates on this road, were included in the shares of the common lands

of Concord that fell to Dean. Thomas Dean was in Concord in 1645, and died in 1676. His son, Joseph, married Elizabeth Fuller, in 1662, and died in 1718. He, with his sons, Joseph and Thomas, have been located here; for their estates are each mentioned as bounding on land sold by Joseph Bulkley to William Hartwell 1696. The northern boundary of the Dean lands was the Winthrop farm, the southern was Hartwell's, and that of Joseph French was west of it. Winship, Eliab Lee, and Nathan Reed were each owners of the Davis estate before it came to that family, and the latter sold to Eleazer P. Davis, whose son, George P., is the present owner.

We find Col. Timothy Jones at the Murry place very early. The present dwelling was built by him very soon after the Revolutionary War. It was a superior house of that day. Reuben Duren of the town was the architect. At the "raising," Rev. Mr. Penniman offered a most eccentric prayer, after having indulged too freely in the "mixed drink" of the occasion. The council at the ordination of Rev. Samuel Stearns was entertained here in a manner befitting the occasion. The farm is now owned by Temple and Beard, and occupied for a nursery.

It is evident that the Haynes estate is covered by the Pellet and Dean shares of the common grounds of Concord. In Walcott's "Concord," p. 133, is the following: "Thomas Pellet, being in great present want, the selectmen gave him a cow, July 13, 1693." The Pellet and Dean families were united by marriage. Dean sold to Moore. Capt. John Moore was living here at the opening of the Revolution, and probably inherited the estate from his father, John, who was established before the incorporation. His wife, Elizabeth, died March 28, 1732, and John, Sr., died Aug. 21, 1765. He was killed by falling from a load of hay when entering the barn. Bradley Bowers married Lydia Moore Feb. 19, 1793, hence the Bowers' possession, which was followed by Stephen Haynes and others to the present John McGovern.

**JAMES KAVANAUGH.**—The Moore farm included this, with the other small homesteads in the vicinity. Leander Hosmer started the Kavanaugh home.

**McGOVERN.**—These farms were included in the Hartwell estate. Stephen, son of William, born 1716, is thought to have established the home. He was followed by his son, Samuel, who married, Oct. 26, 1779, Mrs. Desire (Batchelder) Brown. They adopted Hannah Evans, a granddaughter of Mrs. Desire Hartwell, who married, first, Jonas Putnam and, second, Moses

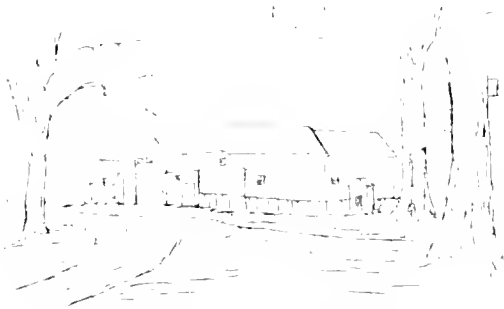
Page. Through inheritance the farm was divided, and has since been held in separate shares. The discontinued road by this house was originally a part of a highway from Billerica to Concord.

**NATHAN B. SMITH AND HENRY BACON.**—These farms were included in one for many years. The location is that of the farm of Thomas Woolley, son of Christopher, who was in Concord in 1646, according to Shattuck. Thomas Woolley bought of Nathan Stow, in October, 1689, one hundred acres of land for forty-five pounds. It is described as being near a place called "Shawshine" (Billerica), bounded on the north by land of Joseph French, on the west by land of Moses Wheat and Timothy Wheeler, on the south by land of John Hartwell, and on the east and southeast by land of Joseph Taylor and John Merriam. There were three generations of Woolleys in possession successively, each of them being Thomas. The first died in 1721. The second, with his wife, Mary Chandler, deeded, April 4, 1761, one-half of ninety-six acres of land, in the southerly part of Bedford, to Zachariah Fitch, for one hundred and seventy pounds. This was the easterly part of the farm. Capt. Joseph Fitch married, second, about 1750, Mrs. Rachel Converse, and settled here. He died February, 1769, and left the estate to his sons, Joseph and Thaddens. Joseph Fitch, then living in New Hampshire, sold, in September, 1769, to Joseph Converse, who, with Thaddens Fitch, his half brother, became the owners. Converse carried on the business of a tanner and currier here. In 1804 Ebenezer Clark bought an estate of two hundred and seventeen and one-half acres, for six thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars, which included the Converse property. In the following year fifty acres were sold to Benjamin Simonds, Sr., and later, in 1812, the homestead was purchased by William Hartwell, who sold his half of the Hartwell homestead to his brother, Joseph, and relocated at the Converse place. William Hartwell died here in 1819. He was followed by his son, Amos, and later by Benjamin F., who sold to his son-in-law, Hannibal S. Pond, who was followed by others to the present.

**ZEBEDEE SIMONDS,** with his brother, Benjamin, came, with their parents, to Bedford, and located in the south part of the town, about 1805, and started shoe manufacturing. They bought real estate of different parties. Thaddens Fitch sold his farm to them in 1813, and there Zebedee Simonds built his residence, which was sold after his decease, in 1826, to Obed Stearns, and passed from that family, through temporary possession to the present.



Between broad fields of wheat and corn  
Is the lowly home where I was born ;  
The peach tree leans against the wall,  
And the woodbine wanders over all.



There is the barn, — and, as of yore,  
I can smell the hay from the open door,  
And see the busy swallows throng,  
And hear the peewee's mournful song,  
Oh, ye who daily cross the sill,  
Step lightly, for I love it still !

And when you crowd the old barn eaves,  
Then think what countless harvest sheaves  
Have passed within that scented door,  
To gladden eyes that are no more.

THOMAS BUCHANAN READ.

**BENJAMIN F. HARTWELL.** — This estate was included in the Patrick Fassett share of the squadron division made in 1708. It passed from Fassett to John Lemon, and in 1721 to Israel Putnam, whose dwelling, one of the earliest in this part of the town, was on this estate in 1729. He gave the land for the burial ground "as it was first laid out," and was a prominent citizen, being chosen the first deacon of the church, in 1730. He was also one of the first constables, and a collector of the "rates" at the the beginning of the town's municipal history. John Lane was a subsequent

owner of the estate, and was succeeded by David Fitch, who occupied it after leaving the mill farm. He was succeeded by his daughter, Mary Fitch, wife of Benjamin F. Hartwell; and her daughter, Mary Alzina, wife of Matthew R. Fletcher, followed in the possession. "Fletcher Avenue" runs through this farm, and the land is offered for building purposes. Five handsome dwellings are already seen there, in addition to the Fitch house, which was removed and re-located on the avenue. Mrs. Fletcher has given a lot to the town for a public library, as a memorial of her mother.

**JOHN NEVILLE.** — The name of Davis appears here very early. Stephen, son of Samuel and Mary (Melows) Davis, born in 1686, married, in 1713, Elizabeth Fletcher, and located here. In the description of boundaries in connection with the act of incorporation, in 1729, it appears that Stephen Davis and John Stearns were each located in this vicinity. The Stearns farm was later added to the Davis estate. Stephen Davis, Sr., was a man of marked ability. He was active in the incorporation of the town, and was one of the first constables, hence collector of taxes. He died in 1738, and was succeeded by his son, Stephen (Deacon). He was the only child of seven, of Stephen and Elizabeth, that came to maturity. He died in 1787, and was followed in the possession by his son, Thaddeus, whose wife, Sarah Stearns, died in 1807. Amos Hartwell (Deacon) followed the Davis family. It was sold by him to the present owner.

**MEAD PLACE.** — This abandoned homestead was once the scene of prosperity. Three families that flourished early in this territory, now without representatives here, seem, by the records, to be associated with this place. They are Cheever, Taylor, and Mead. Israel Mead, born in 1639, married, in 1669, Mary Hall, and settled here. Their son, Stephen, born in 1679, married, in 1700, Ruth Taylor (daughter of Joseph), and followed in the possession. Stephen Mead died, and left one young son, Joseph. Ruth (Taylor) Mead married, second, in 1718, Daniel Cheever; hence the Cheever possession. He was active in forming the new town, and died in 1733. The estate was purchased by Joseph Mead, in 1744, for four hundred and thirty pounds. The next in the family possession was his son, Stephen, who married, in 1765, Desire Batchelder, widow of Joseph Brown. They were succeeded by their son, Asa, who married, in 1803, Nabby Eames. Artemas, the youngest child of Asa and Nabby (Eames) Mead, born in 1817, spent part of his life here, sold the farm, and located in Woburn. Asa, born Feb. 4, 1804,

and died in 1838, was buried on the farm at his own request.

**MUDGE FARM.**—This is included in that part of the Merriam share of common lands of Concord that came within the limits of Bedford at the incorporation. Nathaniel Merriam, chosen deacon in 1730, was located here, with his family. He died in 1738, and was succeeded by his son, John (Lieut.). He died in 1767. After his decease the farm was divided, and John established a home on the opposite side of the highway, while William remained at the old home. Lieut. William Merriam had a large family here. He was prominent in town until he was mentally diseased. The farm was sold to Benjamin Simonds, in 1815, by Thompson Bacon, guardian of William. Seth Whitford was a subsequent owner, and William Mudge purchased the estate in 1856. John Merriam, who settled on the other half of this farm, married Hannah Brooks Dec. 4, 1760. He was succeeded by his son, John, who was followed by Eldridge. He sold to Amos Hartwell.

**PETER KEELEY.**—The land was a part of the Merriam farm. The house was built from the second schoolhouse in the district.

**C. L. WAIT.**—This farm probably included the Michael Bacon purchase of Roger Shaw. Oliver Reed settled here about 1750. Had a son, Oliver, born in 1755, who lived in the west part of the town, and a son, Reuben, continued the family possession. He was followed by Cyrus Reed. It then passed out of the family. Roger Lane was a subsequent owner, and his son, George, planted the hedge of pine trees bordering "Evergreen Avenue." Hiram Clark followed Lane, and after him there were several owners before the present, one of whom was Royal Pierce.

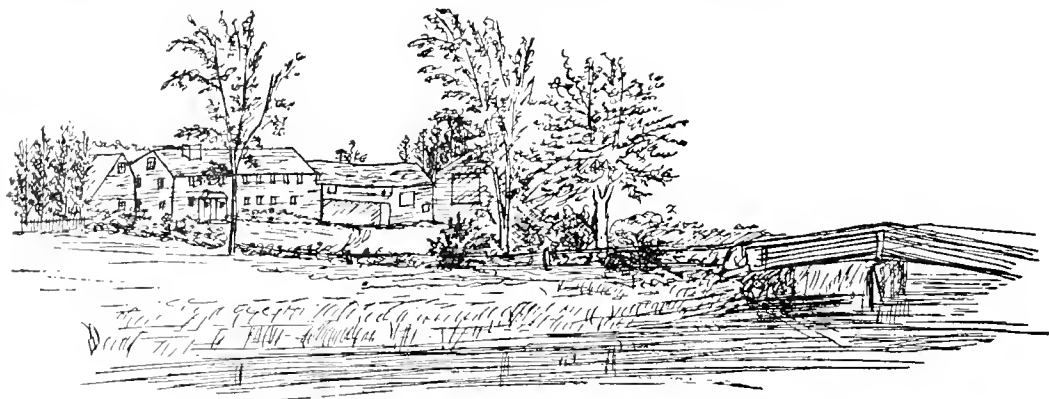
Benjamin Danforth was innkeeper here when the town was incorporated. Capt. John Webber, of Scotch origin, born 1733, married Sarah Fassett, and settled here about 1760, and had twelve children, who became heads of the various branches of that family. Nine of the twelve children of Captain John lived to the average age of seventy-six years and six months.

John Webber Jr., succeeded his father in possession and was followed by the present owner.

**HENSLEY.**—Christopher Page was located here on a portion of the Nathaniel Page purchase, about 1700. He sold to Job Lane, Sr., in March, 1727. Lane followed the business of an innkeeper until his death, 1747. William Webber married Mary Abbott, and settled here in 1791. After his death, 1833, there were Gurney, Ryon, Ward, and Hensley. The old house was destroyed by fire, and the present dwelling was erected by the last-named possessor.

**WILLIAM LYONS.**—It was first included in the Page purchase. James Webber and Hannah Davis married in 1804 and established a home here. They had two daughters, and adopted William, who lost his eye in hunting for crows. (See Bounty for crows, etc.) Larkin P. Page spent some years on this farm, and sold to present owner, who built the dwelling.

**MICHAEL MYERS.**—This farm was included in the Page purchase, 1687. Christopher Page married Susannah Webber, and settled here about 1740. They had six children, two of whom reached mature life. Their son Christopher, born 1743, went from this home to Concord, April 19, 1775 (one of the minute men). Their daughter Mary, born 1746, married Deacon Nathan Reed, of Lexington. John Davis was a later owner: he was followed by others who sold to the present occupant.



**KENRICK.**—This has been alluded to in the general history as the possible site of the Shawshine House. It was an early tavern stand.

**ERNSTEIN, ROSENTHAL, FISK, SKINNER, FROST, IRELAND, FITCH, BUTTERFIELD and CLARK** are settled on the land (five hundred acres) that was



granted in 1652 to Rev. Jonathan Mitchell, second minister of Cambridge. (See General History.) It was all purchased by Michael Bacon, July 19, 1682, for £200. No doubt other lands are included in these farms as they are now bounded. The Wheeler family are early found located at Earnstein's and Rosenthal's. O. W. Fisk's farm occupies a central portion of the Bacon purchase. Capt. Jonathan Wilson was living here at the time of the Revolution. He went from his home at the head of the minute men of the town, to Concord, and was killed April 19, 1775. (See Military History and Epitaphs.) Wilson was connected with the Bacon family by marriage. Among later owners were Cogswell and Clifton. Frank Frost occupies the Bacon house, supposed to be the original. Six generations of the Bacon family were born in it. (See Frontispiece.) Garrison "No. 10," of 1675 was in this vicinity. Joseph Skinner purchased of Bacon, erected the buildings which he occupied, and conducted the business of a farmer and blacksmith until his death. John Ireland has that part of the Bacon purchase upon which Capt. Goodridge was early settled. He was succeeded by his son Bowman, Elijah Brown and Frank Frost. Frank P. Fitch has a part of the estate purchased by Benjamin Fitch about 1730. It included the mill site now owned by Charles H. Clark. The homestead and mill were held as one estate by three generations of the Fitch family, viz., Benjamin, David, David. The last-named sold the mill to William M. Ashby, and Charles H. Clark was his successor. The homestead was inherited by Nathan, and is now owned by Frank P. Fitch, who is of the fifth generation in the family possession. The house was built by the second David.



THE STREAM AND MILL.

'Tis the gentle stream that ripples on,  
To spread its waves amid the sea;  
'Tis the rustic mill of days ago  
That ground the corn for you and me.  
Other farms are mirrored now  
Amid the verdure at its side;  
Other men the hillsides plough  
That rise above the gentle tide.

L. of C.

But them of old we'll not forget  
Who faced the red and savage foe;  
Their valorous deeds are treasured yet,  
Their lives of mingled joy and woe.

A stranger's hand may guide the mill,  
And hold the title of the stream;  
But memory has a claim there still  
Which man will cherish and esteem.

THE AUTHOR.

JOHN BUTTERFIELD'S farm includes that upon which Hugh Maxwell settled about the time of the incorporation. The famous warriors, Hugh and Thompson Maxwell were born on this estate. The Bowman family were found here later, and Capt. Elijah Skelton owned and occupied the place in 1816. Josiah Gleason followed him, and was succeeded by Mrs. Walcott.

HENNEWELL and SKELTON are located on the Gookin grant, which had for its southern boundary Vinebrook. It was sold to Robert Thompson, August, 1761. Amos Hunnewell has that part which was occupied by Deacon Michael Crosby about 1812 and by his descendants for many years. Edmund Skelton's homestead is that part of the grant on which Hutchinson lived. The house was built by White. "Esquire Yates" lived here in 1815. The abandoned house was a Bacon possession. Oliver Bacon was the owner in 1778. The Gookin grant also included the Wymen homestead. It was the home of Amos, whose wife entertained Hancock and Adams on April 19, 1775.

WILLARD LADD'S farm and H. H. STAPLES' mill, with the other real estate on the south side of Vine Brook, represent several small grants, including one of thirty acres "to encourage John Wilson's Corne Mill," in 1685. It was a Wilson settlement until a comparatively recent date. Gleason and Blodget each carried on the business of milling here. The brick house was occupied by the latter in 1812.

MCCARTY OR WILLIAM PAGE FARM. — The name of Joseph Fassett is early traced to this farm. He bought of Timothy Brooks a part of the Oakes farm. He was the head of the family in this territory, "accepted inhabitant in 1679, June 2." Ebenezer Page appears here after the Fassetts, and later William Page, whose name is still associated with the land.

DAVID L. B. FITCH. — This farm was included in the Edward Oakes grant. Leonard White established the home. He was a farmer and a noted teamster. His ambition to outdo others of the same business led him to drive a load of wood to Boston, which the authorities refused to admit to the city streets. The present owner is the third generation of Fitches in possession.

E. G. LOOMIS. — The Edward Oakes grant included this homestead. George Farley and Ralph Hill were purchasers in 1661. David Reed had the farm from Hartwell. He removed the original dwelling which stood on the opposite side of the street. David Reed married Hannah Raymond, in 1772, and established a home here. He built the mansion now standing, which he occupied as a tavern, with the sign pictured below. After the Reed family's pos-



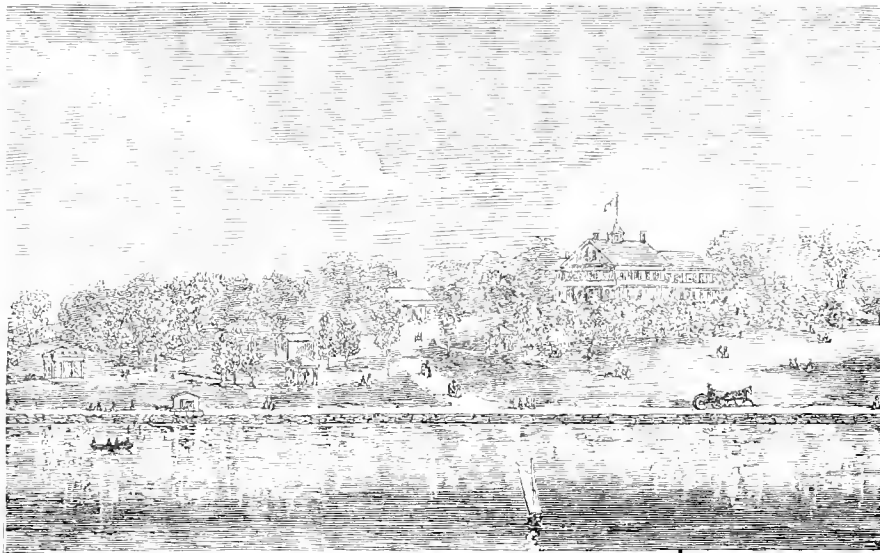
session ceased, the farm had several temporary owners, among whom was Hodgman, who conducted the business of a butcher. Jonathan

returned to Bedford and settled on the David Reed farm. It remained in the Lane name until the death of Mrs. Lane, 1882, when E. G. Loomis, Esq., grandson of Jonathan and Ruhamah Lane, became the owner.

MOSES E. ROWE. — The land was included with the above described estate. The buildings were erected by John A. Merriam. Albert Bacon was a later possessor and sold to Ephriam Jones, of whose heirs the present owner made the purchase.

BROWN and HARTWELL farms with the Town Farm, a home for the poor, were all owned by Pages, and were included in the Page purchase and in the common grounds not divided until 1797. Thomas Page married Anna Merriam and settled at the Hartwell farm about 1756. They had no children, but treated nephews as such. The decease of Anna Page occurred in 1810; when Joseph Brown had one farm, and Nathaniel had the other. The latter sold to Buttrick, who occupied the farm for awhile; and Joseph Hartwell followed after this, at whose death (1868) it was sold to David Constantine. Joseph Brown was succeeded by son Moses E., whose descendants are now in possession of the farm. David Page, known as "King David," was an early owner of the "Poor Farm."

BEDFORD SPRINGS. — Included in the Thomas Oakes grant. (See Industrial Section.)



BEDFORD SPRINGS.

Lane married, July 27, 1815, Ruhamah Page, and located in the north part of the town, where he conducted the business of a cooper, and later, 1824, became a merchant in Boston. In 1847

CONSTANTINE HILL. — This was a Hill homestead at and before the incorporation. The buildings and a part of the land came within the limits of Bedford. Josiah Hill married Su-

sanna Davis, in 1789, and settled here. He was succeeded by his son Constantine, who erected the present dwelling on the site of the old one, which was of a very primitive style. There was a secret apartment in the centre of the house, known as "Grimes' Hole." The tradition is that in the days of Indian alarms a man by that name lived on the farm and had a secret hiding place. The old house was used not only for a dwelling, but as a place for curing hops, thus being a crop much cultivated on the farm. There were other buildings near the Hill farm, as appears from the following:—

"Boston, Nov. 27, 1798. Received of Mr. Josiah Hill four pound in Cash and four pound in Cyder, in full of the Rent of my House and Land in Bedford, from first April, 1798, to first April, 1799. — Abigail Oris."

It appears that Josiah Hill was of the "aristocracy" of that time, as he was taxed in September, 1800, "a duty of three dollars upon a two-wheel carriage, called a chaise, owned by him, with a top, to be drawn by one horse, for the conveyance of persons." The estate, in part, remained in the Hill name until about 1885.



ROBINSON HOUSE.

ROBINSON, or FOSTER. — This is one of the very old homesteads of Bedford. The house, demolished about 1870, was of the oldest styles of architecture of New England. The brick-lined wall leads to the conclusion that it was used as a resort for safety in the Indian wars, and may have been the garrison that has not been located in the town, of which there is evidence. The name of Bowman is traced to this place before 1700. Jesse Robinson bought the place and settled here about 1800. His son Charles remained on the homestead, where three of the third generation were born. The estate was sold out of the family about 1870, since which the present dwelling has been erected on the exact site of the former.

PINE GROVE FARM. — The larger part of the land was on the Concord side. Zachariah Fitch,

son of Samuel, married, Oct. 1, 1733, Elizabeth Grimes, and located here. From him it went to



SAMPSON HOUSE.

his daughter, Phoebe Fitch Sprague, wife of John, who was son of Nicholas, of Billerica, born April 26, 1759. It was next in possession of their daughter Susannah, wife of William Clark; and she was succeeded by her daughter, Sarah C., wife of Albert P. Sampson. The cedar swamp, divided into lots, is separated from the estate by "Mingo Ditch." The swamp is designated in a deed from Andrew Watkins to James Wheeler, in 1728, as "Sancta Domingo Swamp," which in our language may be called Sacred Dominion, and may suggest the present "Mingo."

C. H. WOOD. — This was the Wright estate. The "Old Red House" was occupied by several generations of the family. James Wright was in the Revolution from Bedford. He was chosen deacon in 1785, and was a prominent man in town and church. He led in the music of worship and had charge of the town's "Pitch Pipe" and "Big Fiddle." The first birth in the family recorded in town was that of Tabitha, born in 1768. The Wrights earned on the business of tanning and currying here. Henry Wood followed the Wrights in possession, and his son succeeded him, and erected the present commodious buildings.

Associated with the Wright homestead was that now owned by Martin Kelley. It was a part of the Page purchase of 1687. Timothy Page, son of John and Rebecca Wheeler, born 1741, married and settled here about 1767. Their children were Joseph W. and Dorcas. The latter was born three days after the opening engagement of the Revolution, in which her father took a part at Concord. He entered the Continental army, and was killed at White Plains, N.Y. Dorcas Page married James Wright, Jr., and became the mother of seven children. Tarbox, Centre, and Bacon were owners of the estate before the present, who erected the modern dwelling, and converted the barren acres to a productive vegetable farm.

CAPTAIN SMITH FARM. — This land must have been included in the Grant to Thomas Oakes and in the common lands of Billerica. A portion

of the farm was doubtless taken from the share of the allotment of 1707 that fell to Jonathan Hill. Oliver Pollard, who married Mary Hill in 1777, was an early possessor of the estate. Rev. Nathaniel Sherman, settled as minister of the town in 1759, lived at this place during a part of his ministry. Oliver Pollard, Sr., died in 1831, aged 94 years. He was succeeded by his son Oliver, who built the present dwelling, and sold to John Smith, whose son, George H., continued the family possession until his death, in 1889.

**WINTHROP FARM.** — Hiram Dutton's house is thought to represent the first dwelling erected on the Winthrop Farm, and it is not impossible that the ancient house now standing was built by Job Lane soon after his purchase of fifteen hundred acres of Fitz John Winthrop, in 1664. The farm was in the family possession for many years. Moses Fitch was a more recent owner and was succeeded by Abbott, who was followed by the present possessor.

Brook Side is a very appropriate name given to the Fitch homestead. Samuel Fitch, who inherited one-fourth of the Winthrop farm from his grandfather, Job Lane, built a house and settled here previous to 1696. Samuel was the first clerk of the town of Bedford. He was succeeded in the homestead possession by a son Jeremiah, who had a son Jeremiah. The owners in the fourth generation of the name were Matthew and John (twin sons of Jeremiah, 2d). Four brothers went from this estate to Concord on the morning of April 19, 1775. After about one hundred and twenty-five years of Fitch possession, the farm was bought by John P. Reed, who removed the old house. It stood near the brook, which crossed beneath the highway in its winding course to the river. The sills of the house were below the surface, requiring a step down to enter the rooms. Charles L. Wait was a later owner, and the present is Marcellus Cope-land.

Sunny Side is the name recently given to a second homestead that was taken from the Fitch land. Stephen Lane, son of Timothy and Lydia (Davis), born in 1755, married Alice (Stearns) Abbott, in 1806, and lived here. Their daughter, Lydia Harriet, wife of John W. Hayward, inherited the property, and sold to Justus P. Hastings; others have followed in ownership. Mrs. Hooper is now in possession.

John Lane married, in 1745, Ruth Bowman, and later, Mrs. Sarah (Abbott) Hildreth, and settled on that part of the Job Lane estate known as the George Fisk homestead. Jonathan, born in 1763, succeeded his father in the

possession. He married Hannah Lane, daughter of Samuel. They had a large family born here, of whom, Jonathan, married Ruhamah Page, and carried on the business of a cooper, on the homestead, until he removed to Boston, in 1824. Their son, Hon. Jonathan A. Lane, of Boston, began life at this place. Charles Lane, the donor of the Town Hall clock, was one of the sixth generation. Arinda Lane, sister of Charles, married George Fisk, in 1824, and remained, with her family, at her paternal homestead. George Fisk manufactured band-boxes here. It was the birthplace of Jonathan Fisk, who died in the Civil War. One of the first chaises owned in town was bought by Hannah Lane, after the death of her husband. The first cooking stove owned in town was used here by George Fisk.

The Jackson farm was a part of the Lane estate. The first building erected was Jonathan Lane's cooper shop.

Frederick Davis. This was a Lane possession, until sold by John Lane to Dea. Moses Fitch, who married Rachel Stearns, and occupied it. They were succeeded by son Joel, who sold to Thaddeus Davis, father of the present owner. The original buildings were removed by the first Davis owner, who erected new ones which were destroyed by fire, after which the present commodious buildings were erected.

Edward A. Butters. It was a part of Oliver Pollard's estate, and formerly included in the Lane farm. A plan made by Stephen Davis, in 1773, shows Pollard as owner at that time. His son Obed received it as a reward for marrying before other members of his generation in the family. Levi Bailey bought the estate early in the present century. It was sold by his executor to a grandson, the present owner.

Elm Farm is a name given by the present owners of a share of the Lane farm. Capt. Samuel Lane, who died in 1802, was the last of the name to cultivate this farm. His heirs joined in a deed of sale to Oliver Pollard, April 20, 1803. Jacob Gragg was a later owner. He started the present dwelling, which has been greatly enlarged. The modern additions were made in 1890 by the owner, George C. Skilton.

Job B. Lane. This estate has never been out of the Lane family since the purchase by Job, in 1664. Walter David, now living with his mother at the homestead, is of the eighth generation of the family and name who have occupied this estate. The house was built by David. (See Family Record.)

Coolidge. This was in the Lane name until purchased by Charles Coolidge, who sold to the





CHESTNUT AVENUE.

PICKMAN HOUSE.

present owner, Mrs. Drake. The old house stood west of the present highway. On Stephen Davis' plan James Lane is located there in 1773. Five generations of the name of Lane were born there. Oliver J. Lane built the present dwelling.

Francis Rodman. The dwelling stands on the western border of the common grounds of Billerica which were divided in 1707, but part of the land was included in the Job Lane purchase. Meshach Penniman, brother of the third minister, was located at this place during the Revolution. The town took special precaution to prevent his gaining a residence, by refusing to tax him, and the Lanes may never have quitted their claim. James Lane, with his wife, Molly Pollard, were the successors of Penniman. Owners since the Lanes have been Goodwin, Mansfield, Bacon, Cutler, Davis, to the present.

William W. Farrell. This part of the Winthrop Farm left the Lane name when purchased by Quincy Blake, of the heirs of Eliab Lane. The house was built very early, probably by Joseph Fitch, who married Sarah Grimes, in 1731. He was a builder of note, and the contractor for building the first meeting-house. He is recorded as a mill-wright, and without doubt was the early proprietor of the mill on Peppergrass Brook. Josiah Crosby, at the age of fifteen years, was bound to Joseph Fitch to learn the "millwright's art."

Fitzgeralds.—This is thought to have been the tavern kept by Walter Pollard. (See Industries.) There was an early saw-mill on Peppergrass Brook where it crosses this farm. It belonged to the Lane estate. The present house is supposed to have been moved from that locality. Pollard was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Penniman. Dr. Amariah Preston, who began the practice of medicine in this town in 1790, married Hannah Reed, October 18 of that year, and located at this place. (See Biographical Sketch.) He was succeeded by Jane Pollard, who married Thomas Smith in 1833. It was later owned by Daniel Kimbivan, and now held by his heirs.

Samuel H. Huckins' farm represents a part of the Job Lane purchase of 1664. John Lane married, in 1711, Catherine Whiting, and located here. He was succeeded by his son, Samuel, who died June 26, 1802, and, leaving no sons, the estate was no longer held in the name. The original dwelling was strongly built, with plank walls and brick linings. It was removed by Peter Farmer, who built the present house. He was succeeded by Banfield, who was followed by the present owner.

HENRY DESMAZES.—(Oak Grove Farm.) This

farm extends into that part of the Dudley Farm which was purchased by John Stearns. Job Lane, the founder of the second Lane family in this town, bought a house and fifty acres of land of Caleb Farley, about the year 1700. This he exchanged with Christopher Page for a house and one hundred and fifty acres of land, near the Shawshine River, in the year 1727. The Hutchinson family is found here soon after the incorporation of Bedford. Benjamin and his wife, Rebecca, were doubtless residents of the place. She died in 1814 and he in 1815. They had each attained the age of ninety-one years. Simeon Stearns bought the place after the death of the Hutchinsons, and settled here. He was succeeded by his son, Elbridge W., who sold the estate and located in the village.

Dudley L. Pickman is the present owner of that part of the Dudley farm which was owned by Edward Stearns in 1766, and then set off to Bedford. His son, Elijah, succeeded to the homestead, and was followed by his brother, Simeon. B. B. Frothingham, of Charlestown, came later, and was followed by James Vila. Walcott and Emery came about 1810, removed the old house, and built the present dwelling. The property has had numerous owners, and is now in the possession of one who is descended from Lieut-Gov Dudley, who, with Gov. John Winthrop, selected their farms, in 1638, when standing by the boulders seen in the illustration which they then named the "Two Brothers," "in remembrance that they were brothers by their children's marriage, and did so brotherly agree." The line of descent of the present owner from the grantee of the colony is as follows: Gov. Dudley (grantee); Rev. Samuel Dudley; Dorothy Dudley, married Moses Leavett; Rev. Dudley Leavitt; Mary Pickering Leavitt, married William Pickman; Dudley L. Pickman; William Dudley Pickman; Dudley Leavitt Pickman. Tradition says that the large trees seen in the rear of the buildings were being set by Solomon Stearns at the time of the alarm of the march of the British. He was in the engagement at Concord, April 19, 1775, entered the camp at Cambridge, and there contracted a disease which terminated his life in one month. Timber for the first bridge built over Charles River at Charlestown came from this farm. It was furnished by Edward Stearns.

William J. Stoddard was the last owner of the Uriah Goodwin homestead, who occupied it many years. Goodwin was from Billerica. He was succeeded by his son, Uriah, who built the house on the site of the original, which was destroyed by fire. Uriah Goodwin lived in Bos-

ton after his residence at this farm, and later returned to it.

**REV. SAMUEL STEARNS.**—This homestead represents a part of the common land that was divided in 1707. The house was built for Rev. Joseph Penniman, the third minister of the town. It was the second house of which Reuben Duren was the architect. It was not fully completed when Rev. Samuel Stearns became the minister of the town, and purchased the mansion-house with a farm of about twenty acres. It is still owned by the family.

homestead. He was a faithful friend of his native town. Miss Caroline M. Fitch next succeeded to the possession, and still owns the homestead. There was once included with the farm all of the land from the Elbridge W. Stearns estate to the Common. The benevolent and progressive spirit of Jeremiah Fitch (third) prompted him to offer inducements to people to build houses and establish homes. Some of the builders on the Fitch land were David Rice, Amos B. Cutler, Lewis P. Gleason, Edward Merriitt, and George Dutton.



THE STEARNS HOUSE.

**AARON H. MARCH.**—The first store of the town was kept on this site by Henry Abbott, of Andover. He began the business of a store-keeper soon after the fourth minister began his work among the people. Abbott was succeeded by Elijah Stearns, Esq., who erected the house and the building now used for a store. The first post-office was established on this site. The present owner purchased of the Stearns heirs.

**STONE CROFT FARM** is the oldest homestead in the village. Benjamin Kidder bought land of several parties between 1729 and 1756, and built the present dwelling before 1754. He sold to Daniel Rea or Ray, whose two sons sold to Jeremiah Fitch, Jr., in 1766, who kept tavern here and provided the entertainment for the minute men on the morning of April 19, 1775. He occupied it until death, in 1808, and was succeeded by his son Jeremiah, who was a merchant in Boston, and spent but little time at the

**ROUNDS.**—This homestead was a portion of the estate of John Reed, Esq., who died in 1805. It was inherited by his son Roger, who erected the present mansion on the site of one of the very early houses of the town. He married, in 1790, Sarah (daughter of Capt. John Webber and Sarah Fassett). Their children born here were Sally and Eliot. The latter married, in 1821, Capt. Charles O. Gragg (a seafaring man). The homestead was sold by them, and has had various owners before the present.

**John Walsh.**—The dwelling was built by Charles O. Gragg on a part of the above described estate, and at first occupied by him.

**SILAS WILKINS.**—The homestead on Wilkins' Hill was included in John Moore's farm, and was inherited by his daughter Mary, who married Thaddeus Fitch, son of Joseph. Their three children, Mary, Sarah, and Joseph, were born



here. The possessions were temporary after Silas Wilkins sold the farm.

**SPRING STREET.**—Previous to 1828 the first dwelling on this street, in going from the village, was that already designated as the Mrs. Sarah Foster place, better known to earlier generations by the name of Robinson. Mr. Joshua Page, whose career as a builder marks a very important epoch in the development of the town, began the Spring street enterprise about 1828. He purchased a pasture of James Wright, and began the buildings on the north side of the street, following the wisdom of the fathers, who located so as to face the south. He purchased and removed the second schoolhouse of the Centre, after the erection of the brick house, and made it into two tenements, known as the Saxxpriss place. It was early owned and occupied by Job Webber, son of Capt. John, then by son Artemas, and by his son, Marcus B.

**HENRY WOODS.**—Joseph French was the owner and occupant as early as 1780. He was in the Concord settlement in 1761, and had Samuel, Joseph, Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret, and Jonathan, born between 1676 and 1690. (Shattuck.) The French dwelling was a garrison house in the early Indian wars. It was forty-two feet long by twenty wide, and in later years had "an ell" twenty by sixteen feet. The upper story of the garrison projected over the lower on the side facing the highway, and in this projection were loopholes, through which the flintlock muskets could be put and discharged in time of attack by the Indians. The door was thickly studded with wrought iron nails to prevent the Indians from splitting it. There was also a large iron locker upon it. The family had much trouble from the natives, and when employed on back lots kept a musket near at hand, as the savages would appear from their hiding places without provocation. The garrison was destroyed in the September gale of 1815.

The "ell" was built in 1693 to accommodate a daughter, who married Richard Wheeler. Joseph French, Sr., died in 1732. He provided by will for his wife. With other articles of produce from the farm, she was to have five barrels of cider annually. Joseph French, Jr., proved an unfaithful executor of his father's will, and years were spent in litigation. The Woolley possession came through the marriage of Samuel with a daughter of Joseph French.

Samuel French died in 1738, without issue, having bequeathed his share of the estate to relatives, and made provision for gravestones for his parents as well as himself. Richard Wheeler sold his share to Jonathan, brother of

Samuel Woolley. The Woolley brothers carried on the farm together. Jonathan was a giant in stature; he was killed by falling into a hole in the vicinity of the Virginia road. His share of the estate was divided between his brothers and sisters. Mary, one of them, who married Josiah Davis, had set off to her the land on which the "red house" was located about 1767. The Davis share was sold in 1791 to Edward Carey, son of Rebecca French, and by him sold to Oliver Reed, Jr., in 1795. By a deed of Dec. 18, 1731, Joseph French, Jr., gave to Rebecca Carey, his daughter, "one acre of upland and orchard with one-half of the house, standing upon a part of two acres of upland conveyed to him by his father;" and French sold in 1732 to James Carey, "about one-half acre of land and half a malt-house standing thereon." Samuel Woolley became the possessor of a large share of the estate, on which he spent his life. He was a prominent man of the town for forty years, was often entrusted with the care of the estates of widows and orphans. Samuel Hartwell married Sarah Woolley, and they sold to Oliver Reed in 1785. Thus the whole estate became the property of the Reed family, and remained in the name until sold to Henry Wood by the heirs of Nathan O. Reed, who were of the fourth generation in possession. Mr. Wood erected the mansion house.

Three names that are found in the early tax records of the town are traced to this farm, *viz.*, Benjamin Colburn, who married Elizabeth Woolley, William Colburn, who married Margaret Woolley, and James Carey, who married Rebecca French. Carey was a Nantucket merchant.

**MISS ABBY L. HARTWELL.**—This was built by Jonathan Bacon at the beginning of the century. The next owner was John Merriam, Esq. Then followed Dea. Amos Hartwell, and the present owner and occupant.

**MRS. ELIZABETH HARTWELL.**—This was a portion of the estate of John Merriam, Esq., inherited by daughter Susan, wife of Dr. A. B. Adams. Sold by Adams to Joseph Hartwell about 1865.

**DUDLEY HARFORD.**—Built by John Merriam, Esq., and occupied by son John Augustus, who inherited the estate from his father. Sold by him, and has passed through several names to the present.

**MRS. ELIZA WEBBER and Mr. HIRAM REED.**—The east end of the house was the first school-house built in the South district, added to and completed by Ellbridge Bacon.

**WEBBER AVENUE.**—As the career of Joshua Page marked an important epoch in the develop-

ment of the village in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, so that of Wallace G. Webber marks one in the last quarter of the century. In 1886 he bought a field of the heirs of Dea. P. W. Chamberlin, built a street through the centre, laid out the land into building lots, and offered inducements to parties desiring to establish homes. Webber Avenue and the houses upon it, with the factory and dwelling on Loomis street, are the result of this opening enterprise. He later bought a portion of the Reed, Stiles, Lawrence estate, built Hillside Avenue, and opened up the land for building on which his stable stands, having previously built his house and established a home on Main street. Other results of his enterprise are to be seen on South street.

**OLD SITES.**—Beyond the Springs, and now included in that estate, was the Abbott homestead. Moses Abbott married Mary Hill in 1755, and probably located here and became the founders of the influential family of that name in this town for a century. It is very probable that Obed and Elizabeth settled here about 1725, and that their son Moses was born here, in January, 1727-8. It had been owned by Hezekiah Hutchinson and Elijah Hill. Franklin Stearns and Sally Lane married in 1828, and settled here. It passed through different names to Joseph Brown, sold by his son Moses and widow Rachel to Dr. W. R. Hayden, about 1860.

In the field nearly opposite the home of Peter Kelly, in South Bedford, was the Samuel Merriam homestead. In the same locality, on the John Merriam estate, was the Trask home.

Henry Smith's harness-shop is on the site of a brick-end house owned by David Lane and Thomas Goodwin.

The home of Michael McMahan is on the site of the Porter homestead. It was a prominent estate, and owned by a leading family about 1760. Joseph Porter died here July, 1770.

On the Amos Humewell farm may be seen two cellar depressions. On one stood a house that was moved to the site of the Crosby house. It was a very strong building with brick-lined walls.

In the "Neck Field" near Concord river, on a portion of the Winthrop farm, is the cellar of an estate known as the Simonds lot.

On the south of Concord street was John Hosmer's house at the opening of the present century.

"Saul Bacon's" house was on the north side of Pine Hill road, on the Henry Jeffs portion of the Squadron division of 1707. The Bacon farm was purchased by Oliver Pollard early in the century, and the house, which must have been

built before the Squadron division, was demolished.

In the east quarter, near the junction of the Lexington, Burlington, and Bedford bounds was the Kendall homestead.

On the right hand side of the street in going from the village to Hosmer and Muzzy's stood the Bacon dwelling. A little north of the Hosmer and Muzzy house, on the right hand side of the road, was the Blood dwelling; and between Josiah Davis' dwelling and the river was another Blood dwelling. The later estate was purchased by Davis and Fitch.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

*Sketches of the Clergymen who have Succeeded Rev. Samuel Stearns as Pastor of the Church of Christ and Trinitarian Congregational Society, in their Order of Service.*

**REV. JONATHAN LEAVITT**, son of Roswell Leavitt and Dorothy Ashley, was born at Cornish, N.H., Oct. 21, 1800. He fitted for college at Meriden, N.H., and graduated as valedictorian of his class at Amherst College in 1825, and studied theology at Andover Seminary. He went to South Carolina, making the journey from his native town on horseback. He preached for a time at Pendleton, S.C., and then returned, and labored as minister at Acworth, N.H., and at Waltham, Mass., and settled as the immediate successor of Rev. Samuel Stearns, at Bedford, Jan. 11, 1837, where he ministered until Oct. 12, 1840, when he was dismissed to enter upon a broader field of labor at Providence, R.I., and there remained as pastor of Richmond Street Church a quarter of a century, when his health failed, and he resigned. One who knew him as a preacher says of him: "He preached without notes, he was very scriptural and very spiritual, his figure was striking, his voice clear and admirable in modulation, his sermonizing original and of a high order; often he was mystical, very often thrillingly eloquent. He was an effective preacher in saving men and women. He belonged to a type which has largely disappeared." The students of Brown University were attracted to his church, and many were regular worshippers with his people. Amherst College, of which he was a trustee in 1855, honored him, in 1863, with the degree of D.D., which he declined, as a matter of conscience, as he had previously declined the offer of a professorship. He married, Oct. 10, 1837, Charlotte Esther, daughter of Rev. Samuel Stearns, his predecessor in the Bedford ministry. She died Feb. 27, 1850. He died Oct. 7,

1877. Children: Edward Chalmers, born March 9, 1842, a prominent artist in Providence, R.I.; Charlotte Elizabeth, born March 1, 1846, who married Edward E. Slocum, of Providence.

Rev. Samuel Hopkins Emery is of the seventh generation in this country. The immigrant ancestor was John, who came, with a brother, Anthony, in the ship "James," from England, and settled at Newbury in 1635. Samuel was born at Boxford, Mass., Aug. 22, 1815, son of Joshua and Elizabeth (Welch) Emery. He entered Phillips Academy at the age of eight years. John Adams was then principal. From there he entered Amherst College, as sophomore, at the age of sixteen, and graduated in 1834, with the second appointment of salutatory in Latin, in the class with Henry Ward Beecher. He completed a course at Andover Theological Seminary in 1837, and was immediately settled as pastor of a new church in Taunton, Mass., where he labored until January, 1841. He was installed at Bedford as the immediate successor of Rev. Jonathan Leavitt, who had been called to Providence, R.I. His pastorate in this town, of four and a half years, was during the arbor of his youth in the ministry, and the beneficent impressions made are still manifest. His ability, then apparent, has strengthened during the almost half century

editions. He has been president of the Old Colony Historical Society for many years. He married, March 7, 1838, Julia, daughter of Hon. William Reed, of Taunton. She had been pupil and teacher in Ipswich Female Seminary. Children: William Reed, died young; Samuel Hopkins, graduate of Harvard law school, a manufacturer in Quincy, Ill.; Francis Walcott Reed, in business in Taunton; Joseph Welch, a manufacturer in Quincy, Ill.

Rev. Oren Sikes son of Jonathan and Cyrena Sikes, was born at Ludlow, Mass., Oct. 26, 1805. He was educated at Monson Academy and Bangor Theological Seminary, and was ordained and installed at Union, Me., June 8, 1831. He was installed at Mercer, Me., Jan. 30, 1833, and at Bedford, June 3, 1846, where he continued to preach until his death, Dec. 15, 1852. "Orthodox in his doctrinal belief, an able and faithful preacher, a wise and affectionate pastor, a good citizen, a godly man." He married, Nov. 4, 1832, Julia Knox, daughter of Eben and Lucy Knox Thatcher, of Thomaston, Me. She died Oct. 19, 1851. Children: Oren C., died Sept. 14, 1879; Julia C., married Rev. William F. Bacon, died Feb. 19, 1859; Catherine P., married Milton A. Fowler, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Henry K., of Peoria, Ill.; Caroline E. H., died in infancy.

*Bedford Mass. Oct. 23. 1877*

*The more we become acquainted with this people, the more highly we esteem them*

*Oren Sikes*

that has elapsed since he closed his pastorate in this town. He was recalled to the Taunton church, thence to Quincy, Ill., and was for a time at Chicago, Providence, R.I., Bridgeport, Conn., and North Middleboro, Mass. He was called to the superintendence of the charity work of Taunton by a committee representing all of the churches of that city, and has spent fourteen years in that service. He was a representative to the Legislature in 1890 and 1891 from Taunton, being both years a member of the committee on education and House chairman of the committee on parishes and religious societies. He is an authority on historical and genealogical work, being the author of "The Ministry of Taunton," and other similar publi-

Rev. Henry Johnson Patrick, son of Rev. Joseph H. and Mary Patrick, was born in Warren, Sept. 29, 1827, and prepared for college at Warren, Wilbraham, and Amherst; graduated from Amherst College in 1848, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1853; licensed to preach April 1, 1853; settled as pastor at Bedford, Nov. 16, 1854; dismissed Aug. 28, 1860, and installed at West Newton, Sept. 26, 1860, where he has since labored. During his pastorate in this town he was a representative to the General Court (1857-8). He was a delegate of the Christian Commission in the army of the Potomac, at City Point, 1865, and travelled abroad during the summer of 1886. He was honored with the degree of D.D. by Amherst College in

1890. He married, Sept. 13, 1860, Martha A., daughter of Rev. Aretas Loomis, of Bennington, Vt. They have five children.

Rev. William J. Batt, son of Richard W. and Laura (Bliss) Batt, was born in Fall River, Oct. 5, 1834. He was educated at Brown University, class of 1855, and Andover Theological Seminary, class of 1858. He was ordained to the ministry in Stoneham, in 1859, from which time he was pastor there until 1861, when he was invited to the Church of Christ in Bedford, where he labored four years. His ministry here included the trying period of the Civil War, and his services were with the entire Protestant community, worship being steadily held in but one church. He was installed at Leominster in 1865. After a residence there of ten years, he was recalled to Stoneham, where he remained ten years. Resigning in 1885, he accepted the position of chaplain of the Massachusetts Reformatory, where he is still a faithful laborer for the good of his fellow men. He married, Oct. 5, 1859, Mary D. Davol, of Fall River. She died Dec. 30, 1870. Children: William M., born Jan. 22, 1861; Mary Davol, born May 30, 1863; Arthur L., born June 10, 1865, and died July 2, 1870; Florence W., born Feb. 28, 1867, and died May 19, 1874; Almira Laura, born May 6, 1869.

Rev. George Lewis, son of Lothrop Lewis, was born in Bridgton, Me., Jan. 21, 1839. He was educated in the Academy of his native town and Bangor Theological Seminary. He was ordained at Bedford, Dec. 13, 1865, and installed as pastor of the Church of Christ of the town at the same service. His ministry was rendered brief on account of ill health, and he was dismissed Nov. 11, 1867. He was later settled in Alfred, Me., and is now pastor at South Berwick, Me., where he has been for many years. He married, Nov. 29, 1865, Katherine B. L. McLellare, of Maine.

Rev. Edward Chase was born Oct. 9, 1836; educated at Union College, Maine, and Andover Theological Seminary, and ordained at Portland, Me. in 1863. He was installed as pastor in this town Feb. 17, 1869, and dismissed March 17, 1875. He is now settled at Hallowell, Me., having had a previous pastorate at Biddeford, Me. He married, March 10, 1869, Sarah Brooks. Children: Charles Coes, born April 26, 1870; Martha H., born May 4, 1874; Sarah B., born June 20, 1880, and died Dec. 26, 1890.

Rev. Otis D. Crawford, second son of Hon. James Crawford, of Dubuque, Ia., and Mary Bellows Dickinson, granddaughter of Col. Caleb Bellows, after whom Bellows Falls, Vt., was named, was born Feb. 5, 1812. His father died

in 1846, and he was educated in occasional schools and in a general store in Maquoketa, Ia., in Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, N.H., Iowa College, and at Chicago Theological Seminary, where he took a full course, and graduated in 1872. This was supplemented by a three months course at Oberlin, under President Finney, and at Andover Theological Seminary in the winter of 1876-7, under Professors Park and Phelps. He was ordained Nov. 1, 1872, and entered upon home missionary work in his native state. He was settled at Hampton, Ia., for two years, and in Sunderland, Mass., in the winter of 1874-5. He became acting pastor at Bedford, Aug. 1, 1875, and remained until Nov. 1, 1876, since which time he has labored in the South and West. His work is that of a revivalist, in which he has been abundantly blessed. His term of service in the South was spent at Mobile, Ala., where he had charge of Emerson Institute, and at New Orleans, where he superintended the erection of Whittin Hall for Straight University. Mr. Crawford enlisted in Company A, Ninth Regiment, of Iowa Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 9, 1861, for three years or during the war. His regiment was mustered into service Sept. 24, 1861. The field of operation was the Mississippi Valley, and he was engaged in battles at Pea Ridge, Ark., Bayou Cache, Chickasaw Bluffs, outpost of Vicksburg, Arkansas Post, Jackson, Miss., and Vicksburg. In General Sherman's corps, at the last place, he was wounded in an assault upon the works, May 22, 1863. He suffered from an open wound in the shoulder for thirteen months, which prevented him from re-enlisting, and he was discharged Sept. 24, 1864, and granted a pension. He was corporal in the color guard, and as such, at the engagement where he received his wound, was able to save the standard which had been presented to the "Greyhound Regiment" by the ladies of Boston. He married, Sept. 1, 1874, Clara M. Wood, a native of Swansea, Mass. Child: Lulu Addie, born Jan. 9, 1878.

Rev. George Edwards Lovejoy, son of John H. and Sally (Grout) Lovejoy, was born in Bradford, June 30, 1843. His early education was obtained in the public schools of his native town and in various academies. His plans for life were interfered with by the Civil War. He enlisted as a private in August, 1862, being assigned to the Twenty-second Massachusetts Regiment, First Brigade, First Division, Fifth Army Corps. He remained a member of this regiment until it was mustered out of service, when, having re-enlisted, he was transferred to the thirty-second regiment, with which he was connected

until the close of the war. He participated in the battles of Antietam, Shepardstown, Chancellorsville, Rappahannock Station, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg, where his regiment was distinguished for its services. In 1868 he began special preparations for the gospel ministry, and completed a course at Andover Theological Seminary in 1873. He was ordained and installed as pastor of the Congregational Church of Candia, N. H., July 16, 1873, where he remained until the spring of 1877, and on the 12th of the following September was installed as pastor of the Church of Christ of Bedford. While here the town and church celebrated their one hundred and fiftieth anniversary. His sermon, commemorative of the organization of the latter, was published by the request of the people, and is a valuable contribution to local history. He resigned at Bedford, to accept a call to the First Congregational Church of Franklin, where he was installed Dec. 8, 1880, and labored with marked success until the summer of 1891, when he accepted a call to Oak Park Church, Minneapolis, Minn. He married, May 1, 1867, Mary L. Sinclair, of Lowell.

Rev. Howard A. Hanaford, son of Dr. T. H. and Rev. Mrs. P. A. Hanaford, was born at Nantucket town, Dec. 31, 1851, and educated at Dean Academy, Antioch College, Ohio, and Tufts Theological School. He was ordained at Wellfleet, as a Universalist, April 22, 1871, and en-

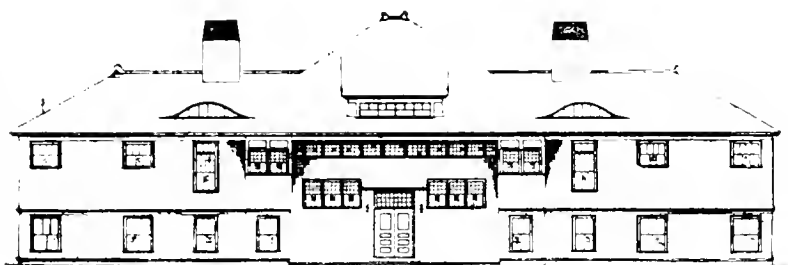
tered the Congregational ministry December, 1877. He was acting pastor in his native town for two years, and settled in Bedford, in April, 1881. He labored until the autumn of 1885, when he resigned, and accepted an acting pastorate at Middleboro, where he remained until 1888, and was then settled over the First Church of Winchester, N. H. He is prominent in the Masonic Fraternity. He married, Nov. 4, 1874, Mary W. Landerkin. Children: Charles Leonard, born Aug. 10, 1875; Maria Mitchell, born July 10, 1880.

Rev. Edwin Smith, son of Henry Dearborn Smith and Clarissa Soule, was born in Searsport, Me. He graduated at Bowdoin College in 1861, and at Bangor Theological Seminary in 1864. He was ordained and installed at Lynn, Mass., Chestnut Street Church, Jan. 11, 1865, where he remained until 1868. His subsequent parishes have been Barre, 1868-79; Braintree, 1879-82; Maynard, 1882-6. His ministrations at Bedford began August, 1886. He married, Dec. 29, 1864, Amanda S. Manson, a graduate of Bates College. Children: Edwin Ray, born Nov. 25, 1865; Annie Manson, born Aug. 11, 1868; Amy Lillian, born Dec. 14, 1870, and died Nov. 2, 1876; Melville Henry, born Oct. 12, 1880. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith was made an occasion of great interest by his people at Bedford.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY.

SINCE Chap. VI of this history was printed changes have taken place, materially affecting the educational, social, and industrial relations of the town, and this chapter, which we endeavored to guard against, becomes necessary.

A committee, then at work, reported to the town at a legal meeting held on Jan. 24, 1891, recommending the immediate erection of a school house. The town then voted to proceed to build a suitable house to accommodate all of the schools of the town. An appropriation of \$10,000 was made for the purpose of procuring a site and erecting the building. This was the first instance in the town's history when a vote to build a school house of any size or kind was obtained at the first meeting held for the purpose. The building committee consisted of Wallace G. Web-



UXTON SCHOOL HOUSE.

ber, Oliver J. Lane, Wallace A. Calef, Rev. Edwin Smith, and Edwin H. Blake. The work was judiciously done, and the Uxton School House was completed in 1891.

The following record of appropriations for public schools shows the gradual growth of the town: 1732, \$5; 1733, \$11 6s. 9d.; 1734, \$11; 1743, \$30; 1758, \$20; 1797, \$300; 1798-9, \$250 each; 1800-1, \$300; 1802, \$200; 1803-4, \$300; 1805-6, \$330; 1807, \$600; 1808-11, \$400; 1812, \$300; 1813-17, \$400; 1818-19, \$500;

1820-4, \$100; 1822-29, \$150; 1830, \$300; 1831, \$490; 1832-34, \$150; 1835, \$520; 1836-44, \$600; 1845, \$700; 1846, \$600; 1847-51, \$800; 1852, \$875; 1853, \$900; 1854, \$800; 1855, \$860; 1856-60, \$1000; 1861-64, \$1100; 1865, \$1200; 1866-70, \$1300; 1871-74, \$1600; 1875, \$1700; 1876, \$1800; 1877, \$2000; 1878-1880, \$1800.

In 1881 the State law required each town to furnish text-books and all supplies, hence the appropriation of that and subsequent years has been increased in sums ranging from \$200 to \$250 for the purpose. 1881-2, \$2000; 1881, \$2020; 1885, \$2500; 1886, \$2800; 1887, \$2750; 1888, \$2450; 1889, \$3050; 1890, \$2750.

From 1837 to 1861 the town received its proportion of the income of the Surplus Revenue Fund. The income of the State School Fund was first received in 1835. The revenue from the Dog Tax has some years been voted to schools, but usually it has gone to the use of the Free Public Library Corporation.

Bedford united with five neighboring towns in 1890 in forming a district for supervision, and thus secured special aid from the State. George M. Wallsworth was made supervisor.

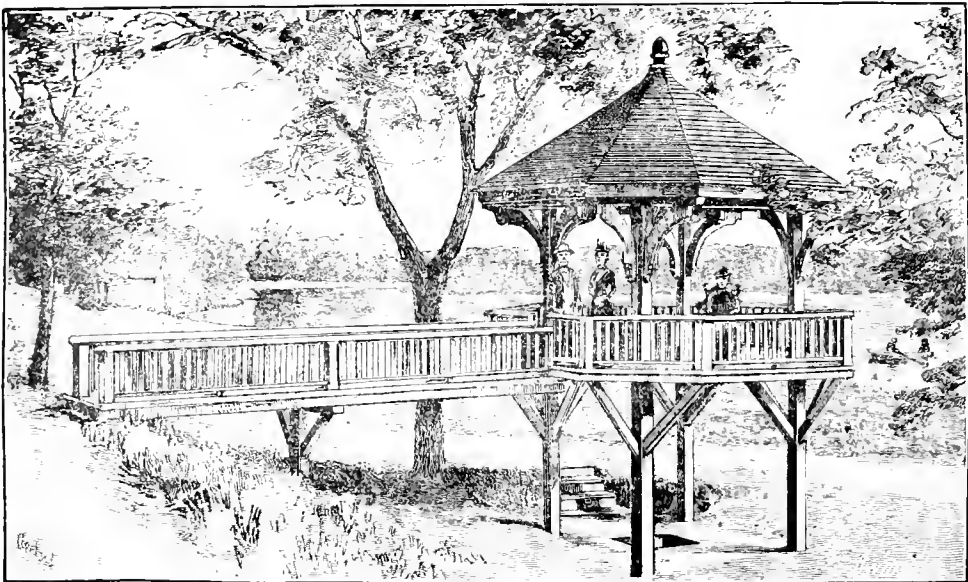
The Bedford House Association alluded to in Chapter XVI, has made extensive alterations and improvements in the hotel property, greatly benefitting the town.

The wood-working factory alluded to in Chapter XV, has undergone a radical change. A corporation has been formed under the laws of Massachusetts, and *The Bedford Lumber and Manufacturing Company* was chartered May 28, 1891.

It has a capital of \$25,000. The company is chartered "for the purpose of buying, selling and manufacturing all kinds of lumber and articles made of or from lumber in whole or in part, and also all articles and materials used in building and furnishing houses and other buildings, and also of painting and glazing."

The officers are: President, Wallace G. Weber; Treasurer, Wallace A. Culef; Secretary, Charles E. Park.

The facilities of the corporation are ample. Fifty people are constantly employed, and the largest industrial interest ever established in this town had its beginning in 1891.



MINERAL SPRING GAZEBO

At Bedford Springs, described in Chapter XVI, improvements are now, August, 1891, being made, which enhance the value of the property, and add to the interest of the town.



BEDFORD LUMBER AND MFG CO





# Genealogical and Biographical.

IN adding the following chapters of family history no claim is made to completeness. The object has been to arrange in a readable manner all the obtainable facts. If items are recorded that seem of no special value, the chief object of their introduction has been to break the monotony of a register of vital statistics.

The plan at first was to introduce only those families that represented the founders of the town and those that came early, and only such when they had interests of long standing. After more mature consideration, it seemed best to extend the privilege, and the following letter was sent into each family:—

The history of Bedford, with genealogical sketches of families and biographical notes, is soon to be completed. If you desire your family register inserted, you will please furnish the data at once. If you wish space for illustration, together with sixty-five natives of Bedford who have already ordered, you will give it your immediate attention.

Failing to do so before Jan. 20, 1891, may necessitate the omission of your family, in which event you can have no reasonable cause for complaint.

All communications should be addressed to—

ABRAM ENGLISH BROWN,  
BEDFORD, MASS.

When branches of families have ceased to be identified with the interests of the town, they have been omitted, unless the data have been supplied by interested parties. In many instances the absence of records or other information has made it impossible to present any connected or intelligent account.

It is hoped that those who have passed unheeded the printed invitations to furnish family records, and have left their promises unfulfilled, will charitably overlook not a few of the omissions and incomplete registers.

The author of this work trusts that the *substance* will be found of value.

These chapters are the result of much labor and anxious investigation, and will have served their purpose if they arouse any one of the present or of a future generation to emulate the virtues of their ancestors or to shun their vices.

With a hope that they may be helpful to some one better qualified to compile this branch of history, they are added as fragmentary records.

“What more precious testimonial of your love of kindred and home can you leave than that which provides for the transmission of the history of your ancestors, yourself and family, to future generations?”—*Hon. Marshall P. Wilder.*

## EXPLANATIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS.

We have tried to be systematic in these registers, but in some instances a deviation will be noticed.

We first give some note on the origin of the family in this country, and earlier if known.

The surname is given when introducing the family, and printed in full-face capitals, and only repeated when a biographical note is appended to the family register.

When a man's name is introduced as the head of a family it is given in full-face type, and is accompanied with date of marriage, name of wife, and date of death of each, as the case may be.

Then follows the register of births, children's names being in *italics*. If a son is recorded later as the head of a family, a full face **H** is placed at the left. When not so recorded, the register is completed. The descendants of daughters are not traced unless they are found as heads of other families. When one is to be found with another family the name of husband is given as a guide.

When a daughter is not to appear through union with some other family recorded in this volume, her marriage, place of residence, etc., if known, are added to the record of her birth.

A dash between records of families having a common surname indicates the kinship as remote or not traceable, *i. e.* :—

John Clark. ....

Peter Clark. ....

The Arabic figures represent the generation in this country; in cases where they are omitted, it was not possible to obtain them.

Abbreviations: b., born; bap., baptized; ch., child or children; d., died; dau., daughter; gr.-dan., granddaughter; m., married; q. v., which see.

When no state is designated, Massachusetts is understood.

**ABBOT**, or **ABBOTT**, George,<sup>1</sup> with sons, George,<sup>2</sup> Nehemiah,<sup>2</sup> and Thomas,<sup>2</sup> was from England. George<sup>1</sup> d. in Rowley, in 1647. George<sup>2</sup> m. Sarah Farnum, settled in Andover. Had to ch. He d. 1719, aged 92; she d. 1728, aged 90. George<sup>3</sup> m. 1689, Elizabeth Ballard; m. 2d, Hannah Esty. Had 9 ch.

**Obed**,<sup>4</sup> son of George,<sup>3</sup> a weaver from Salem, bought a farm of Nathaniel Hudson in Sept. 1725, and settled in the

southerly part of Billerica, now Bedford. It is included in Bedford Springs. He was prominent in forming the town and church, small in stature, and of great physical power. He m. Elizabeth —, and d. May 11, 1773; she d. May 20, 1752. Ch. **h** *Moses*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 13, 1727. *Sarah*, b. April 22, 1729, m. Feb. 11, 1748, Isaac Stearns of Billerica. *Elizabeth*, b. Mar. 10, 1731, m. Dec. 9, 1756, Abijah Cutler of Brookfield. *John*,<sup>6</sup> b. Feb. 4, 1733. *Mary*, b. Feb. 16, 1745, m. Daniel Parker of Reading.

**Moses**,<sup>5</sup> (Capt.), known as Solid Abbott, was 1st Lieut. of Bedford Minute Men, and lived on the homestead. He m. April 15, 1755, Mary Hill of Billerica. He d. May 22, 1800; she d. Sept. 5, 1801. Ch. *Betty*, b. July 12, 1757, m. Oliver Reed. *John*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 20, 1759. **h** *Moses*,<sup>6</sup> b. Sept. 21, 1761. *Jeremiah*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 23, 1763, settled in Groton. *Benjamin*,<sup>6</sup> b. Feb. 9, 1766, d. May 21, 1793. *Mary*, b. July 2, 1768, m. May 10, 1791, William Webber.

**Moses**,<sup>6</sup> m. Dec. 7, 1786, Alice Stearns, d. Feb. 19, 1802. Had 6 ch. d. young, and *Alva*, b. Sept. 22, 1788. *Lucy Stearns*, b. Feb. 11, 1792. **h** *Moses*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 16, 1795. **h** *Oliver* R.<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 26, 1800.

**Moses**,<sup>7</sup> m. June 22, 1820, Susanna Jaquith, d. July, 1830. Ch. *Susan Caroline*, b. Oct. 8, 1820, m. Seth Austin. *Moses* G.<sup>8</sup> b. June 5, 1822. *Charles Edwin*,<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 24, 1824. *John Henry*,<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 10, 1825. *Sylvester* K.<sup>8</sup> b. Dec. 9, 1831, d. June 14, 1890. *Anna F.* b. May 24, 1834, d. Mar. 17, 1883.

**Oliver R.**<sup>7</sup> m. Mary A. Wilson; m. 2d, Mary A. Buttrick. He d. Sept. 11, 1842; she d. Dec. 26, 1825.

**ASHBY, William M.** from England, settled in Bedford, 1847; manufactured sashes and blinds on Vine Brook; went to California in 1848; later purchased the Fitch Mill, and there conducted business till his death in Nov. 1872. He m. May 4, 1845, Eunice M. Butterfield. Ch. *Emma F.* b. Oct. 16, 1847, m. Joseph A. Goodwin.

**BACON.** The name has been prominent in the territory comprising this town for more than two hundred years, and, at times,—with the exception of Lane and Hartwell,—the most numerous.

**Michael**<sup>1</sup> was the immigrant ancestor. He went from the north of England to the north of Ireland about 1633, and came to this country about seven years later, settling in Dedham about 1640. He was accompanied by his wife, three sons,—Michael,<sup>2</sup> Daniel,<sup>2</sup> and John,<sup>2</sup>—and a daughter, Sarah. The children are all mentioned in a will dated at Dedham, "14—2—1648." His wife died in 1647, and he in 1648.

**Michael**,<sup>2</sup> with wife from Ireland, seems to have settled at first in Charlestown; for there, on Dec. 18, 1640, he was a petitioner for the proposed town of Woburn, and became one of the original inhabitants. He was chosen, April 13, 1644, surveyor of highways. Frothingham, in the history of Charlestown, gives a list of the inhabitants of that town between 1630 and 1640, and as the name Bacon does not appear, it is probable that Michael<sup>2</sup> came to Charlestown late in 1640. In a mortgage received June 8, 1675, he is alluded to as a citizen of Billerica. In August, 1675, the town of Billerica, when providing defense against the Indians in Philip's war, assigned Michael Bacon to garrison "No. 10," under command of Timothy Brooks. Mary, the first wife of Michael,<sup>2</sup> d. Aug. 26, 1655. He then married Mary Richardson of Woburn (Sewall's history); she d. May 19, 1670. He married, 3d, Nov. 28, 1670, Mary Noyes. One of the children of Michael<sup>2</sup> was **Michael**,<sup>3</sup> b. about 1640.

**Michael**,<sup>3</sup> m. Mar. 22, 1660, Sarah Richardson of Woburn, who d. Aug. 15, 1694. He d. Aug. 13, 1707. They had ten children, some of whom were born in Woburn.

Michael Bacon—probably Michael<sup>3</sup>—purchased the Rev. Mr. Mitchell farm of 500 acres in July, 1682, for £200. This farm was a grant by Cambridge to their minister, in 1652. It was situated on the Shawshine River, and included the mill, and was known for many years as "the Bacon homestead." Michael<sup>3</sup> was an occupant before the purchase, and had a mill before 1675. Page, in history of Cambridge, has the following: "Michael Bacon of Woburn bought of Rodger Shaw a farm in the north-westly part of Cambridge (now Bedford), including all the meadow adjoining to the great swamp near the east corner of Concord bounds that falls to Cambridge."

The numerous family of Bacon, prominent in the history of Bedford, have almost all descended from Michael,<sup>3</sup> through Jonathan<sup>4</sup> and Benjamin.<sup>4</sup> The early exceptions were children of Nathaniel, Josiah, and Joseph, sons of Michael,<sup>3</sup> q. v. One hundred descendants of Michael,<sup>3</sup> of the name of Bacon, are recorded here previous to 1822, and probably as many descendants of the daughters. In the tax-list of 1743 there are eight Bacons, six of them owning real estate. The "Bacon house," still standing, is thought to have been built by Michael,<sup>3</sup> in the latter part of the seventeenth century. Six later generations of the family—in five of which were Benjamins—have been born or lived in that house. (See frontispiece.)

Among other estimable traits of the Bacons, a notable one has been their musical talent, manifested during the entire history of this town. Many of this name and their descendants have been prominently identified with vocal or instrumental music.

**Jonathan**,<sup>4</sup> 2d son of Michael,<sup>3</sup> b. July 14, 1762, m. Jan. 3, 1694, Elizabeth Giles, who d. in 1738; m. 2d, Sept. 22, 1739, Elizabeth (Hancock) Wyman. He d. Jan. 12, 1754. (See epitaph.) Ch. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 26, 1695. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 25, 1696, m. Israel Putnam. *Anna*, d. young. *Jonathan*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 18, 1700, m. Ruth —, and had William,<sup>6</sup> who d. young. *Mary*, b. Sept. 18, 1702. *Breget*, b. Jan. 5, 1706—7. (See epitaph.) *Anna*, b. Aug. 19, 1709.

Jonathan Bacon<sup>4</sup> was a man of prominence in Billerica, although living far from the centre of the settlement. In 1699 he was approved by the selectmen "to sell victuals and drink." It was ordered by the "Great and General Court," in 1705, that Jonathan Bacon and others should have proportionable shares with other common proprietors and inhabitants of Billerica in all future divisions of undivided and waste lands belonging to the town, according to their proportion of the town charges for the last seven years. Jonathan, with two brothers, was in the Indian wars with "Mager Lane," in 1706. When the town assigned the schoolmaster to the different sections, in 1722, he was to go "one month to Jonathan Bacons." Jonathan<sup>4</sup> and brother, Josiah, protested against certain proceedings of the town in 1710. He represented the town of Billerica at the "Great and General Court" in 1726, and was selectman in 1719 and 1727. He was prominent in the petition to secure the formation of the town of Bedford. As a "principal inhabitant," he was appointed to assemble the people in the first town meeting, Oct. 6, 1729, at which time he was chosen one of the selectmen. (See frontispiece and epitaph.) Benjamin,<sup>4</sup> already mentioned as the son of Michael,<sup>3</sup>—who, with Jonathan,<sup>4</sup> be-

came the limbs of the ancestral tree to continue the prominence of the family in this town, — was the son to remain on the homestead. He, with brother, Joseph,<sup>4</sup> had land deeded by Michael,<sup>3</sup> their father, in 1704, deed not recorded until 1710.

**Benjamin,<sup>4</sup>** son of Michael,<sup>3</sup> was born about 1688, m. Dec. 2, 1712, Abigail Taylor of Concord, d. 1727 (tombstone, Billerica yard). Ch. **h Benjamin,<sup>5</sup>** b. Dec. 6, 1713; **h John,<sup>5</sup>** b. June 10, 1716; **Abigail,<sup>5</sup>** b. Sept. 25, 1718, m. James Simonds of Woburn. **Samuel,<sup>5</sup>** b. July 21, 1721. **Mary,<sup>5</sup>** b. —? In a will dated Nov. 25, 1727, all the children except Mary are mentioned, and provision made for a child if one should be born after the father's death.

**Benjamin,<sup>5</sup>** m. Feb. 15, 1730, Catherine, dau. of Col. John Lane. They both d. in 1791. Had 4 ch. d. young, **h Benjamin,<sup>6</sup>** b. 1741; **Elijah,<sup>6</sup>** b. 1754, m. Amittai Lane, d. 1788.

Benjamin Bacon<sup>5</sup> was a deacon of Bedford Church from 1750 till his death in 1791. In 1784 he deeded one-half of his real estate to his son Elijah. Benjamin<sup>6</sup> and Elijah<sup>6</sup> were engaged in the Concord fight. Of the twenty-six "minute men" from Bedford, at Concord fight, six were Bacons, and there were two in the company of militia in that engagement. There were nine Bacons reported as liable to do military duty May 15, 1775.

**Benjamin,<sup>6</sup>** m. May 27, 1769, Esther Davis, m. 2d, Dec. 31, 1786, Amittai (Lane) Bacon, m. 3d, Anna (Crosby) Jaquith. He d. Jan. 19, 1828. Ch. **Esther,<sup>7</sup>** b. Mar. 24, 1767, m. — Ems. **h Benjamin,<sup>7</sup>** b. May 6, 1769, Catherine, b. Mar. 4, 1771, m. — Ems. **Isaac,<sup>7</sup>** d. young. **Jessie,<sup>7</sup>** d. young. **h Stephen,<sup>7</sup>** b. Sept. 28, 1778.

Benjamin Bacon<sup>6</sup> by marriage with the widow of his brother Elijah, gained possession of the half of his father's estate given to Elijah,<sup>6</sup> and being heir to the other half, became owner of the whole of the Bacon homestead, which at that time comprised only a part of the original Mitchell farm.

**Benjamin,<sup>7</sup>** m. Martha Preston. He d. 1838; she d. 1834. Ch. **Sarah,<sup>8</sup>** b. Mar. 2, 1794, d. young. **Esther Davis,<sup>8</sup>** b. July 24, 1795, d. 1867; a life-long resident of Bedford, a member of the Church of Christ (Trin. Cong.), a teacher in first Sabbath school from its organization, active in charitable works. **h Elijah,<sup>8</sup>** b. Oct. 23, 1796. **Patty,<sup>8</sup>** b. 1798, m. James Davis. **h Benjamin,<sup>8</sup>** b. Jan. 13, 1801, d. 1888. **Sarah,<sup>8</sup>** b. Jan. 5, 1803, m. William Whitford, d. 1831. **John Lane,<sup>8</sup>** d. young. **h Anna Preston,<sup>8</sup>** b. July 13, 1807. **h Sylvester,<sup>8</sup>** b. Jan. 13, 1809. **Josephine,<sup>8</sup>** d. young. **Catherine,<sup>8</sup>** b. Mar. 27, 1819, m. John Moses Fitch; they formerly resided in Bedford, but have for many years been located in Michigan.

**Elijah,<sup>8</sup>** m. Jan. 26, 1823, Mary, dau. of Elisha and Dolly (Smith) Watson. He d. Jan. 16, 1875. She d. Nov. 23, 1886. Ch. **Mary Elizabeth,<sup>9</sup>** b. June 5, 1824, m. June 4, 1846, C. W. Bullfinch. She d. Dec. 24, 1886. **Maria Esther,<sup>9</sup>** b. Mar. 20, 1827. **Martha Davis,<sup>9</sup>** b. Mar. 20, 1827, m. July 2, 1855, C. H. True. **Harriet Louisa,<sup>9</sup>** b. Oct. 12, 1829. **Henry Watson,<sup>9</sup>** b. July 8, 1839.

Elijah Bacon<sup>8</sup> was born, and reared as a farmer, at the ancestral homestead in Bedford (see frontispiece). Possessing inventive genius and mechanical skill, he later engaged successfully in the manufacture of agricultural implements, — notably, wrought-iron plows. As a citizen, he was highly esteemed for his sterling integrity, genial and sympathetic nature, and excellent judgment on all points

connected with agriculture. He was a member of the Church of Christ in Bedford (Trin. Cong.) nearly fifty-eight years.

**Henry Watson,<sup>9</sup>** was born in Bedford, at the homestead where six generations of his ancestors had preceded him (see frontispiece). At an early age his home was changed to the village, where he resided during his youth. Dr. Bacon has long been engaged in the practice of dentistry in Boston.

**Benjamin,<sup>9</sup>** son of Benj.<sup>8</sup> m. Sylvania, dau. of David and Molly Lane. Ch. **Martha Sylvania,** b. July 31, 1822. Family then removed from town.

**Isaac Preston,<sup>9</sup>** son of Benj.<sup>8</sup> m. Susanna E. dau. of Willard and Mary Buttrick. He d. Sept. 18, 1885; she d. Oct. 28, 1887. Ch. **h William F.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1834. **Ellen A.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1835.

Isaac P. Bacon<sup>9</sup> was born at the ancestral homestead in Bedford, where he passed his early years (see frontispiece); subsequently learning the trade of wheelwright, at which he diligently worked until his decease. He was a man of genial yet positive nature, and of unswerving loyalty to his moral convictions. During the last eight years of his life, he was a deacon of the Church of Christ in Bedford (Trin. Cong.). A memorial window honors him in the meeting-house of the Trinitarian Congregational Society.

**William F.,<sup>10</sup>** m. Julia C. Sikes; m. 2d, Mary W. Beal. Ch. **Ired E.,<sup>10</sup>** b. and d. 1861. **Charles A.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1862, Dartmouth Col., 1883. Professor of Astronomy in Beloit Col. **George F.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1866, Dartmouth Col. 1887. Teacher. **William A.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1869, Dartmouth Col., 1890. Teacher. **Theodore H.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1874. **Arthur A.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1875. **Julia A.,<sup>10</sup>** b. 1877. William F. Bacon<sup>10</sup> a Congregational minister of prominence, has been pastor at Amesbury, Mass., Laconia, N.H., and East Hampton, Mass.

**Sylvester,<sup>8</sup>** son of Benj.<sup>7</sup> m. July 19, 1843, Ann P. dau. of George and Rebecca (Siter) Rees. He d. Jan. 7, 1890. She d. Apr. 4, 1873. Ch. **Emma,<sup>9</sup>** b. May 3, 1844, d. young. **Louie,<sup>9</sup>** b. Oct. 19, 1847, d. young. **Henry,<sup>9</sup>** b. Oct. 10, 1884, d. young. **Anna L.,<sup>9</sup>** b. June 30, 1849. **George R.,<sup>9</sup>** b. May 19, 1851. **Frank,<sup>9</sup>** b. Oct. 23, 1853.

Sylvester Bacon<sup>8</sup> was born in Bedford, and was a resident of the town during his early years. He later engaged in the manufacture of marble mantels in Philadelphia, Pa., where he permanently resided.

**John,<sup>5</sup>** son of Benj.<sup>4</sup> lived across the line in Billerica, on a share of the homestead. He m. in 1744 Elizabeth Stearns, and d. in 1760. (See epitaph.) She m. 2d, Capt. Jonathan Wilson. They had eight children, of whom four d. young, (see epitaphs), and **Reuben,<sup>6</sup>** who was at Concord fight, d. May, 1775 (see Revolution). **Abigail,<sup>6</sup>** b. 1754, d. May 1, 1776. **h Thompson,<sup>6</sup>** b. Mar. 5, 1760.

**Thompson,<sup>6</sup>** m. Oct. 16, 1783, Martha, dau. of John Hosmer and Martha Webber, and gr. dau. of Benjamin Webber and Susanna Whitmore. He d. 1833; she d. 1847. Ch. **Reuben,<sup>7</sup>** d. an infant. **h Jonathan,<sup>7</sup>** b. April 15, 1785. **h John,<sup>7</sup>** b. Dec. 22, 1786. **h Reuben,<sup>7</sup>** b. Nov. 25, 1788. **Nancy,<sup>7</sup>** b. Jan. 19, 1793, m. Dec. 16, 1819, Cyrus Warren, d. July 28, 1870. **Ota,<sup>7</sup>** b. Feb. 27, 1795, d. July 28, 1811. **Thompson,<sup>7</sup>** b. April 16, 1797, m. April 17, 1821, Rebecca P. Porter, d. Mar. 19, 1838. **Eliza,<sup>7</sup>** b. Oct. 4, 1799, m. Joseph Webber, Jr. **Elbridge,<sup>7</sup>** b. Aug. 2, 1800, m. April 27, 1823, Louisa Reed, d. Aug. 31, 1848. **h Albert,<sup>7</sup>** b. Aug. 24, 1802.

Thompson Bacon<sup>6</sup> settled on a farm south of the village. He was a land surveyor of skill; his plans and charts are

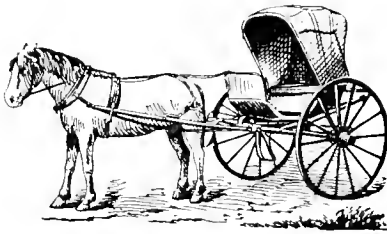
valuable for reference at the present time. He was a prominent Whig and later a Republican, and represented the town at the General Court in 1812.

**Jonathan,**<sup>7</sup> m. July 15, 1806, Abigail Clark. She d. May 18, 1857; he d. Aug. 2, 1856. (See biographical sketch, Chap. XXI.) Ch. Twins, d. in infancy. *Abi ail*, b. Feb. 6, 1807, m. William Ripley, d. June 14, 1880. *Clark,*<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 15, 1808, m. Emma C. Burr, d. Mar. 5, 1857. *Frederick,*<sup>8</sup> b. July 13, 1811, m. Ann Robbins, d. July 29, 1875. *Caroline,*<sup>8</sup> b. July 25, 1813, m. May 14, 1837, Isaac W. Hurd. *Warren,*<sup>8</sup> b. Jan. 13, 1816, d. Jan. 22, 1822. *Eliza Ann,* b. Apr. 13, 1818, m. Prescott J. Bigelow, d. Mar. 29, 1859. *h Warren,*<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 30, 1822. *h Jerome Augustus,*<sup>8</sup> b. June 21, 1827. *Emma Augusta,* b. Dec. 15, 1831, m. Sebastian Kramer, d. Oct. 19, 1872.

**John,**<sup>7</sup> a shoemaker, and prominent citizen of Bedford, m. Betsey Cutler. He d. Feb. 1875; she d. Jan. 1879. Ch. *h Edward,*<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 15, 1817. *h John Otis,*<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 1, 1822. *Henry Augustus,*<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 16, 1838, m. Myra Nelson.

**Reuben,**<sup>7</sup> m. Sarah Clark. He d. Nov. 2, 1857; she d. Feb. 18, 1877. Ch. *Sarah,* b. May 19, 1807, m. Edward Flint. *Nancy,* b. Oct. 22, 1809, m. John Augustus Merriam. *h Reuben,*<sup>8</sup> b. Dec. 8, 1811. *Martha,* b. Mar. 22, 1814, m. Joseph Hosmer, d. 1885. *Ann Eliza,* b. Sept. 3, 1821, m. Joseph Porter, d. Sept. 3, 1860. *Mary Jane,* b. Mar. 14, 1824, m. Henry Townsend. *Helen F.* b. April 25, 1830, m. William C. Barrett of Providence, R.I. Reuben Bacon<sup>7</sup> was a prominent shoe manufacturer, and a leading man in town and Unitarian church. He was town clerk from 1830 to 1844, was representative to General Court from his native town in 1834 and 1839-40, and a member of the State Senate in 1836. He was a justice of the peace.

**Albert,**<sup>7</sup> m. June 2, 1825, Susan Reed. Ch. *h Albert Thompson,*<sup>8</sup> b. Dec. 8, 1827. Albert Bacon<sup>7</sup> was a merchant at one time, and a man of prominence in town and Unitarian church. He represented the town in the General Court in 1854. (See Officers.) He, with his companion, constitute, in 1891, the most venerable and honored couple of the town, aged 89 and 85 years respectively. The sixty-sixth anniversary of their marriage was appropriately celebrated by the town on June 2, 1891. Their bridal trip was made in a bellows-top chaise.



**Jerome Augustus,**<sup>8</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>7</sup> m. Marion M. Darling; m. 2d, Lizzie F. Merriam of Boston, granddaughter of Francis Jackson, a co-worker with Garrison and Phillips. She d. Jan. 6, 1882. He m. 3d, Anna R. March of Bedford. Ch. *Clara D.*, who m. 1st, Orrin Smith, and had Marion D., and Jerome. By 2d wife, *Frank,*<sup>9</sup> graduate of Harvard College, 1899, and a student at Harvard Law School. By 3d wife, *Charles Aaron,* b. Dec. 25, 1889. *Mary* and *Abigail* (twins), b. June 13, 1891. Jerome A. Bacon<sup>8</sup> was the youngest son of Jonathan.<sup>7</sup> He lived at

home until he was fifteen years of age, when a desire for more than an ordinary education prompted him to seek advantages outside of his native town. He attended school at Concord, under Henry and John Thoreau, and completed a course at Lawrence Academy, Groton. He paid his expenses by his own efforts. At the age of nineteen years, his father rewarded his ambition by giving him the choice of a college course or a start in business. He chose the latter, and learned the gold leaf and dental toil business in his brother Clark's factory at Boston. After six months' experience he was given the oversight of the apprentices, and soon started the business for himself on the homestead at Bedford. This he conducted, together with the manufacture of the patent lever blind fastener, and gave employment to seventeen people. Through personal application and skillful management, he acquired sufficient wealth to enable him to relax close application, which declining health of his wife made necessary. After the death of his father, he purchased the homestead, and enlarged and beautified it for his own residence. His keen perception of business possibilities led him to purchase the mill of the Lawrence Paper Co., at Lawrence, Mass., and he entered upon the manufacture of paper entirely inexperienced. In 1881 he organized the Bacon Paper Company, taking nine-tenths of the stock himself. He then turned his attention to Berlin Falls, N.H., where he saw a remarkable water power, which he began to utilize, in company with Henry H. Furbish, in the extension of the manufacture of chemical wood fibre for paper stock, which he was already manufacturing there. They bought the entire water privilege and adjoining lands, built new mills and scores of houses for operatives. Thirty-two tons of fibre are turned out from these mills daily. The enterprise has led to the development of the town, which now has a population of about 4000 people, or nearly six times that of ten years ago. Mr. Bacon has interests in other mills, together with an orange plantation on St. John's River, Florida, that comprises eighty acres of trees, planted under his personal supervision during a season of ill health when recuperating in that state. Mr. Bacon is a helpful friend of his native town and of the church of his father's choice, where he worships. He is of a retiring nature, and all his acts are free from ostentation.

**Albert T.,**<sup>8</sup> son of Albert,<sup>7</sup> m. 1848, Sarah A. Gragg, who d. Nov. 30, 1877; m. 2d, Sept. 10, 1879, Carrie L. Moar. Ch. *Edna L.* b. April 10, 1881. *Albert Reid,*<sup>9</sup> b. April 22, 1883. Albert T. Bacon<sup>8</sup> attended the schools of the town, then the academy at Concord, under Henry and John Thoreau, and later the Lawrence Academy at Groton, under Rev. James Means. He is the leader of the Bedford Cornet Band, organized in 1888. He inherited the mechanical talent of the family, which he developed by working on watch and clock machinery at his home in early life. In 1853 he entered the employ of the Boston Watch Company, then located at Roxbury. He finished the first watch completed by the company. He went with the company to their new and permanent location at Waltham, and served in the various departments of the business until he was made superintendent, in 1858, in which position he remained until 1877, when he resigned and returned to his native town. He was prominent in promoting the enterprise, and saw the small company of 1852, which employed twenty hands, pass through its many vicissitudes until it became the American Watch Company, with nine hundred em-





ployees and a daily producing power of one hundred and fifty watches. Mr. Bacon is a member of Monitor Lodge, F. & A. M., being a past master; also a member of Waltham Royal Arch Chapter, and of De Molay Commandery of Knights Templars, of Boston.

**Reuben,** son of Reuben, m. 1st, Ruth Corbin. She d. July 13, 1838. He m. 2d, Jane M. Davis. He d. Feb. 22, 1861, she d. Oct. 5, 1870. Ch. *Anna R.* b. Jan. 4, 1834, d. Mar. 26, 1835. *Olivia*, b. Feb. 6, 1836. *Reuben*, b. Feb. 16, 1838.

**Edward,** son of Edward, m. April 3, 1829, Charlotte Hays, d. Nov. 18, 1857. She m. 2d, Dec. 9, 1859, Benjamin Brown, d. Oct. 11, 1867. Ch. *Anna Elizabeth*, d. young. *Leila F.*, b. June 17, 1845, m. George B. Wheaton, Concord, N. H., d. young. *Charles F.*, b. Dec. 2, 1849, m. John F. Doel, d. Mar. 27, 1870. *Charlotte Anna*, b. Jan. 3, 1853, m. Theodore L. Russell.

**John Otis,** son of John, m. Clara A. Goodwin. Ch. *Alfred*, m. infant. *Grace*, b. June 6, 1859, m. Eliza K. Wheeler, of Boston, have *Clara*, b. Jan. 3, 1881. *Leila*, b. Sept. 1883, m. Petha Lawrence, of Ashby, have *Leila*, b. Jan. 13, 1882. *Robert*, b. Sept. 1885. *Josephine*, b. 1885, m. S. S. W. 1886, of Illinois, have *Grace*, b. July, 1885. *William*, b. Sept. 1890, m. Edward M. French, have *Joseph*, b. 1893. *Annie Julia*, b. 1891. *Elizabeth*, b. 1891, m. 1893, Alice Mann, have *Elizabeth*, b. 1888. *Clara*, b. 1891, m. Hattie Anderson, of Lowell, d. young.

**Warren,** son of Jonathan, m. Aug. 1, 1847, Lucy A. Lawrence. He d. Feb. 5, 1868. Ch. *Robert Warren*, d. young. *William*, b. Mar. 8, 1849. *Leila*, b. Mar. 1850. *Mary*, m. April 23, 1857. *Anna Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 7, 1859, m. Horace K. O'Brien, of Arlington.

**Walter Frank,** m. Oct. 21, 1858, Isabel F. Gilbert of Andover, N. H. He d. Dec. 8, 1860. Ch. *William Lawrence*, b. Dec. 1, 1860. *Elizabeth*, d. young. *Marion*, b. 1863, d. young. *Leila*, b. 1864, d. young. *Olivia*, b. Aug. 13, 1867. *Leila*, b. Sept. 3, 1868.

**Stephen,** m. Nov. 28, 1760, Mary Porter. He d. 1803; she d. 1831. Ch. *Abigail*, m. Timothy Jones, d. Oct. 5, 1881. *William*, m. John Dudley, d. Sept. 20, 1820. *Stephen*, m. Maria Parkhurst, of Temple, N. H., d. Jan. 1867. *Elizabeth*, b. 1844, d. 1823. *Charles*, b. Jan. 24, 1807, m. Abel S. Munroe, d. Jan. 24, 1860. *Annie*, b. Nov. 8, 1810, m. Abel Fitch, d. Nathan O. Reed. *Martha*, m. Silas Sawyer, of Sharon, N. H., d. Aug. 10, 1839.

**Nathaniel,** son of Michael, and Sarah Bacon, b. 1675, m. Leath Wyman. Ch. *Nathaniel*, b. 1700. *Judith*, d. an infant. *Joseph*, b. 1702. *Elizabeth*, b. 1704-5, m. Thomas Grover, of New York, b. 1707, m. Benj. Grover, of Stoneham. *Michael*, d. an infant. *Sarah*, b. 1709, m. Nathan Brooks of Concord. *Martha*, b. 1713. *Joseph*, b. 1710. *Thomas*, b. 1711.

**Michael,** son of Nathaniel and Judith, m. Nov. 24, 1713, Sarah Whittenmore of Lexington. She d. April 17, 1745. He m. 2d, Mar. 5, 1747, Elizabeth, dau. of Job and Mary Lane, had 9 ch., of whom David<sup>6</sup> was killed by William Merriam on June 15, 1810. Solomon lived on a rough farm on Pine Hill road.

**Joseph,** son of Michael, b. May 8, 1685, m. May 9, 1716, Rebecca Taylor of Concord. He d. 1747; she d. 1778 (see epitaph). Ch. *Rebecca*, d. unmarried. *Rebecca*, m. Joseph Robbins, of Acton. *Leila*, m. Amos Brooks of Harvard. *Ebenezer*, m. Samuel Bacon of Stow. For setting

off "widow's thirds" see page 54. The heirs sold to Samuel Bacon of Stow, who with his wife Eunice (Bacon) Bacon settled on her homestead, later Thompson Bacon's. Their ch. are *Samuel*, b. Feb. 16, 1740-50. *Joseph*, b. Nov. 18, 1751. *Michael*, b. Mar. 15, 1754. *Martha*, b. Jan. 26, 1756. *Stephen*, b. Mar. 24, 1758. *Joseph*, b. Feb. 23, 1762. *Samuel*, b. Sept. 26, 1761. *Rebecca*, b. Feb. 11, 1764. *Michael*, b. Dec. 31, 1765. These ch. of Samuel and Eunice are of the sixth generation, but as the father is not of the Bedford line from Michael they are not indicated as are others.

**BELLINGS.** The family settled in that part of Concord which is now Lincoln. The line of descent in that town has been from Joseph through Nathan to John, m. Lydia Dennis. Ch. *Timothy*, b. 1800. *Mary*, b. 1803. *John D.*, b. 1805, m. May, 1832, Eliza Ann Stearns, d. Mar. 27, 1871 (see Industries). She d. Mar. 3, 1875. Ch. *Mary Ann*, b. Mar. 18, 1833, m. Oliver J. Lane. *John Winn*, b. Jan. 9, 1837, d. 1847. **William P.**, b. 1810, m. 1834, Adeline A. Pond, who d. Jan. 1875.

**BLAKE, John Quincy,** son of William and Susanna Childs, b. in Boston June, 1800, m. Lucretia (dau. of Isaac Davis, a Boston merchant who perished on steamer Lexington Jan. 26, 1840), b. July, 1815. Ch. *Annie Maria*, b. Nov. 2, 1834, m. Francis H. Bolton, d. ch. *Wilber Francis*, b. June, 1836, soldier in Union army, wounded at Fredericksburg, pensioned, drowned Aug. 1860. *John Henry*, b. Nov. 2, 1838. *Clara Maria*, b. Aug. 31, 1841, m. Byron Harmon, M. D., of Woburn. *Frederic*, b. Dec. 3, 1843, m. Elizabeth Mathers. *Ernestine*, b. Jan. 29, 1846, m. Eben Pratt, d. ch. *Frederic William*, b. May 1, 1848. *Arthur Wallis*, b. Oct. 14, 1851, m. Alice M. McCuen, 1 ch. *Fred Addison*, b. April, 1854, d. 1874. *Joseph*, b. Mar. 3, 1856, d. young. *George Washington*, b. Feb. 4, 1861, m. Mary Perkins, 1 ch.

**Edwin Henry,** m. June 1, 1862, Mary L. Parkhurst. Ch. *Charles Elmer*, b. and d. 1863. *Edith Anna*, b. and d. 1864. *Alfred Elmer*, b. May 27, 1866. *Clarence Wilfred*, b. July 27, 1869, d. Mar. 17, 1884. *John Quincy*, b. Oct. 14, 1874. *Edith Maria*, b. Dec. 11, 1875. *Charles Warren*, b. Mar. 27, 1881. Edwin H. Blake started in the grocery business in this town April, 1860. Sold out and removed to East Cambridge Dec. 1864, where he followed the same business until 1882, when he returned to Bedford where he resides. He was on the board of Overseers of Poor of Cambridge 1872, alderman 1878-9, selectman of Bedford from 1884 to 1891, representative from Dist. 19 in the Legislature 1888.

**Alfred Elmer,** m. Sept. 27, 1887, Fanny Belle Rowe. Ch. *Adeline*, d. 1890.

**BOYNTON, William,** from England, settled in Rowley, Mass. His son probably went from Rowley to Groton or Pepperell. The line has been William,<sup>1</sup> Moses,<sup>2</sup> Abram,<sup>3</sup> John,<sup>4</sup> John T.,<sup>5</sup> who was b. in 1818, m. in 1843 Mary, dau. of Zebediah and Susan Adams. He has been often in town office. Ch. *Mary Est*, b. Aug. 10, 1846, m. Frederick Davis. *Nelle L.*, b. June 12, 1850, grad. of Framingham Normal School. Teacher at Emerson School, Concord.

**BROWN.** (Not numerous in Bedford.) In the early years of the town's history there was a family but of very remote connection, if any, with that now in the town. Joseph m. Nov. 6, 1734, Desire Batchelder, d. 1762 (see epitaph). She m. 2d, Stephen Mead, d. Sept. 9, 1797.

Joseph and Desire had several ch., among whom was Captain Joseph, b. 1755, d. 1858.

There were three early settlers of Watertown by the name of Brown, and thought to have been of the same family, viz., Richard, Abraham, and John. The records of Boston show that there was an Edmund Brown, proprietor, of Boston, as early as 1647; and according to a land suit, 1682, Edmund was nephew to Abraham and brother to John, of Watertown, and a son of John, of Hawkeson, England. Robert Brown, a near relative of John, was a reformer and founder of the denomination of independants called originally Brownists, and now represented in church organization and government by the various denominations of Congregationalists.

**John,**<sup>1</sup> b. in Hawkeson, England, 1631, m. 1655, Esther or Hester Makepeace, of Boston (probably England). Settled in Watertown, N.H., and later Marlboro and Falmouth. His will, dated at Watertown, Nov. 25, 1697, says, "late of Falmouth." Of their twelve ch. Joseph,<sup>2</sup> the last, b. 1677, m. Nov. 15, 1696, Ruhamah Wellington, of Watertown, where they settled. He was selectman, constable, and town clerk from 1700 to 1708. He sold his farm in 1709 and removed to Lexington, where he and his wife were admitted to the church, May, 1713, of which he was later a deacon. He d. Jan. 11, 1760; she d. July 1, 1772, aged 92. Ch. *Raham*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1701. *h. Daniel*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1723. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1726, d. 1736. *Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1728. *James*,<sup>3</sup> bap. Sept. 2, 1728, m. Lexington. *Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1714, bap. Aug. 12, 1715, admitted to church Mar. 11, 1733, graduated at Harvard Col. in 1735; settled in Sterling. *Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> b. 1723, d. 1801. *William*,<sup>3</sup> b. in 1723, was a deacon of church of Framingham and selectman of town.

**Daniel,**<sup>1</sup> m. about 1728. — Eliot, who d. 1734-5. He m. 2d, Anne Bright, of Watertown, who d. Jan. 18, 1786, in Lunenburg. He d. Feb. 26, 1796. Ch. *John*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant. *Raham*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 7, 1731, m. John Keed, of Bedford. *h. Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> *Bertram*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 1, 1738. *Abisha*,<sup>2</sup> bap. Aug. 13, 1738. *Anna*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 29, 1739. *Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 26, 1741. *Ester*,<sup>2</sup> Dec. 26, 1743, m. Nathaniel Tottingham, of Westminster. *Jenison*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 18, 1749, m. Abisha Brown, of Concord. *Martha*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 18, 1749, m. Zechariah Brown, of Concord. *John*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 12, 1751, killed on Lexington Common April 19, 1775. *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 8, 1756. *Mary*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 8, 1758.

**Nathaniel Bowman,**<sup>1</sup> m. Feb. 9, 1765, Abigail Page, of Bedford. Both admitted to Lexington church Oct. 6, 1765, and were dismissed to the church in Lunenburg in 1783. He d. July 30, 1800; she d. Aug. 8, 1799. Ch. *Susannah*,<sup>2</sup> bap. Oct. 24, 1766, m. Cook, of Plymouth, Vt. *Abigail*,<sup>2</sup> bap. April 26, 1767, m. Robert Bishop. *h. Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> bap. Mar. 26, 1769. *Anna*,<sup>2</sup> bap. Feb. 3, 1771. *Nancy*,<sup>2</sup> m. French, of Concord. *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> d. unmarried in Michigan. *Raham*,<sup>2</sup> m. Daniel Barrett, of Vermont. *Polly*,<sup>2</sup> m. Moses Fitch, of Bedford. *Daniel*,<sup>2</sup> d. in Michigan. *Thomas*,<sup>2</sup> settled in Vermont, and became the founder of a large and influential family. *h. Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 24, 1782.

**Nathaniel,**<sup>1</sup> m. Mar. 3, 1797, Ruth Lane, of Bedford, where they first settled, removed to Plymouth, Vt., and founded a prominent family. He d. April 28, 1834; she d. Aug. 18, 1838. Ch. *Anna*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 23, 1799. *John*,<sup>2</sup> (see epitaph). *Abigail*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 19, 1803. *Mary Ann*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 9, 1805. *Ruth Davis*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 17, 1807. *John Page*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 12, 1810.

**Joseph,**<sup>1</sup> m. Oct. 5, 1809, Betsey, dau. of Dea. James

Wright; she d. June 30, 1818; 2d, Feb. 18, 1819, Rachel, dau. of Dea. Moses Fitch. He d. Aug. 26, 1858; she d. Mar. 20, 1868. Ch. by 2d wife, *h. Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> Jr. b. April 27, 1820. *Moses Fitch*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 15, 1823. Joseph Brown<sup>2</sup> was a man of prominence in the town, often in town office, was decided and outspoken in all his dealings. His integrity and good judgment led many to select him to settle their estates and act as guardian of their children, which trusts he faithfully administered.

**Joseph,**<sup>1</sup> Jr. m. 1843, Sarah Ingalls. He d. July 24, 1854; she m. 2d, Eldridge Merriam. Ch. *Joseph William*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Lucretia Anson*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 18, 1847, who is a physician in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Moses Fitch,**<sup>1</sup> m. Elizabeth Smith, and his family, settled on the homestead, where he started the butchering business, which he followed till his death, April 20, 1873. She d. April 17, 1882. *h. Ch. John Henry*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 1844. *Allen*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 1849, d. July 20, 1868. *Abiram English*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 21, 1849, m. Oct. 11, 1877, Sarah J. Flint, of Shrewsbury.

**John Henry,**<sup>1</sup> m. Mar. 1868, Ann M. Willard. Ch. *Allen W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 21, 1869. John Henry was in the war of the Rebellion (see page 69). He succeeded to the business established by his father, which he now follows together with his son.

**BROOKS, Silas**, from Worcester, m. Nancy Weeks of Waltham, settled in Bedford in 1838 as a wheelwright. He d. April 7, 1872. Three ch. two d. young. *Edwin M.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 14, 1843, m. Sarah P. Nelson, of Peterboro, N.H. Was in Union army [see page 69], d. April 5, 1873.

**BUTTERFIELD, Benjamin**, headed petitioners, May 1, 1853, "for a grant of the quantity of six miles square which bordereth upon Merrimack River." It included the town of Chelmsford, in which the name of Butterfield was prominent for many years. John d. in a stage-coach while going from Westford to his home. He left a widow and several ch. four of whom settled in Bedford. Ch. *h. Joseph M.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 1812. *Russell*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 22, 1816, m. W. M. Ashby. *h. John*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 1818. *h. Charles M.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 1820.

**Joseph M.,**<sup>1</sup> b. Oct. 1812, m. Oct. 11, 1835, Clarissa Blodgett of Lexington, who d. April 25, 1890. Ch. *Ellen E.*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Ellen M.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 22, 1839, m. Jonas E. Munroe.

**Charles M.,**<sup>1</sup> b. Feb. 1820, m. Sept. 6, 1840, Louisa Emerson, and d. April 25, 1887. Ch. *Mary Louisa*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 25, 1841, m. Sept. 27, 1869, Fred A. Locke, d. June 15, 1890. *Charles Edward*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant. *Lacy Matilda*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 18, 1844, m. Oct. 21, 1863, Eben T. Sumner. *Charles Frederick*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant.

**John,**<sup>1</sup> b. Nov. 1818, m. Sept. 1840, Elizabeth Hodgman, who d. June 1, 1874. Ch. *John H.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 14, 1841. *Eldona*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 31, 1843, m. H. K. Appleton, d. April 9, 1879.

**CALEF, Wallace A.**, treasurer of Bedford Lumber & Manufacturing Co., son of Asa F. and Sarah (Nichols) Calef, was b. in Lowell, July 29, 1848. He m. Emma Francis Meek of Concord. Ch. *Edna Georgiana*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 26, 1879.

**CHAMBERLIN.** The family in this country is first found in Woburn. Thomas and Edmund were among the first English settlers of Chelmsford.

**Phineas** (gen. unknown), came from Chelmsford to this town about 1792, m. Feb. 21, 1797, Dorcas Varnum of Dracut. He d. Jan. 9, 1809; she d. Mar. 5, 1849. Ch. *Dorcas*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 6, 1797, m. Timothy Phelps, d. in Dedham.



*Lydia Smith*, b. Oct. 25, 1799; d. Sept. 13, 1854. *David Vannum*, b. Mar. 6, 1801; d. May 22, 1835. *h Phineas Whiting*, b. Sept. 2, 1803. *Rowman Adams*, b. June 22, 1806. *Emilia Lane*, b. Feb. 8, 1808; d. Sept. 5, 1885.

**Phineas W.**, m. May 12, 1831, Almira Hatch; she d. Aug. 19, 1837; 2d, Esther Blood. He d. Jan. 29, 1878; wife Esther d. April 1, 1887. Ch. four d. young, and *Almira*, b. April 3, 1831, m. Edward A. Hartwell, 1st V. Phineas W. Chamberlin learned the shoe business of Zebulon Simonds, which he successfully followed with John D. Billings. They were manufacturers for many years. Mr. C. was a prominent citizen of the town, long helpfully identified with its varied interests. He was a prominent member of the Trinitarian Congregational society and church connected with it, being deacon of the church from 1845 till death. A window to his memory is seen in the meeting-house. It was the gift of his widow.

**CLARK.** Several families of the name have been in town at different times. Capt. **Ebenezer** from Brantree settled here soon after the close of the Revolutionary War, where he had served as "Captain of Body Guard" of General Washington, while in New England. He m. Ruth Wild. Ch. *Zachary*, b. 1781, m. Mary Sampson, 11 ch. He m. *Townsend*, *Adel*, b. 1783, m. Elias Poole, had 2 ch., m. 2d, *Castilia Hosmer*. *Mary*, b. 1786, m. 1804, Stephen Colbin, 6 ch. He d. at Greenville, N.H., aged 49 yrs. *Adel*, b. 1788, m. Jonathan Bacon, 7 ch. *Sarah*, b. 1791, m. Reuben Bacon, 9 ch. *Berenson*, b. 1792, m. Martha Hosmer, 7 ch. d. New Ipswich, N.H. *John*, b. 1794, m. Hannah Holman, 4 ch. *Tim* Storham.

**William**, son of John and Mary Cutler of Maine, b. May 17, 71, m. April 24, 1832, Susanna Sprague. He d. June 24, 1875; she d. Dec. 1, 1874. Ch. *Mary*, 11. *William* Lyford, 2d, Albert P. Sampson, d. Nov. 1863. *Thomas*, m. 1st, 2d, twins. William went West, where he is supposed to have died in infancy. *Sarah* d. July 29, 1850, aged 1 m. Albert P. Sampson. *John*, m. Mary C. Draper, 1 ch. *John*, m. G. S. Phillips. *Sarah*, d. young.

**Hiram**, son of Thomas and Lydia Woodbury, b. at Asworth, N.H., Sept. 12, 1815, m. Feb. 4, 1847, Mary Lane, and settled in this town. He d. Feb. 27, 1861; she d. April 18, 1883. Ch. *Abigail*, *Mary*, b. Feb. 28, 1850. *Mary* d. Dec. 16, 1852, 1. Nov. 22, 1870. Hiram Clark was a farmer, and later a teamster, a man of unimpeachable integrity.

**Charles H.**, m. Concord, m. July 12, 1806, Abbie C. Davis. Ch. *Anger*, *Lydia*, b. April 17, 1807. *Hebert*, *Levi*, b. Jan. 31, 1880. *John* *Hewitt*, b. July 25, 1881.

**Bradford**, of Concord, m. May 1, 1877, Jennie A. Batesman, of Rochester, N.Y. Ch. *Arthur*, b. Mar. 31, 1878.

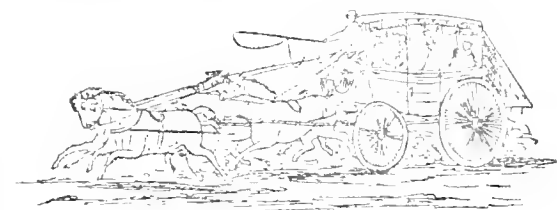
**COLE, Lyman**, son of Nathaniel Cole and Abigail, dau. of Oliver and Abigail (Flanders) Flanders, was b. in Plymouth, N.H., April 13, 1825. His maternal ancestry are traced to Stephen Flanders, who with his wife Jane came from England and settled in Salisbury, in 1647. Lyman Cole is of the seventh generation; his parents d. when he was young. He m. at Cambridge, Nov. 4, 1849, Susannah Tufts, and settled in Bedford, where he has since followed the business of a tin and sheet-iron worker. Ch. *h Charles Samuel*, b. June 8, 1855. *Hanna Elizabeth*,

b. Nov. 6, 1857. *Charles*, *Levi*, b. Oct. 28, 1850; d. July 2, 1862. *Emma Rebecca*, b. Feb. 10, 1862; d. Dec. 27, 1863.

Mrs. Susanna Cole is a descendant, in the third generation, from Henry Seavey of Deerfield, N.H., who with the other inhabitants of that town lived in 2000 in the town during the Indian wars. He ventured out at one time for some necessary, when he saw a lurking Indian preparing to shoot him. He hid behind a log, extended his leg out on a stick, and the enemy did it. Seeing young Cole, and not believing the Indian who was his enemy in a moment, "Methought."

**Quincy Sumner**, m. May 21, 1884, Alice L. Jackson. He follows the business of his father. Ch. *Levi*, *Levi*, b. Mar. 26, 1886. *Levi*, *Mary*, b. Aug. 13, 1887. *Levi*, *Levi*, b. July 1, 1891.

**COREY, Charles C.**, b. in Groton, Mar. 16, 1816, came to Bedford in 1831, m. Nov. 27, 1834, Hannah A. Lane. She d. May, 1884. He m. 2d, July 22, 1888, Dora M. Holmes. Ch. *Abigail*, *Levi*, b. Nov. 1841, m. Oct. 1867, At. Kildane. *h Charles*, *Levi*, b. May 23, 1842. *George*, *H. d. young*. Charles C. Corey was son of Aaron of Groton. His grandfather was of that town, and in Concord eight, April 16, 1775. He came to Bedford in 1831 in the employ of the Boston and Keene Stage Company. His father bought a part of the stage route in 1835, when father and son conducted the business, furnishing the only public conveyance from Groton to Boston. They made a round trip in two days, and carried the mails. The New England stage coach was abolished after the introduction of railroads. Mr. Corey established an express route between Bedford and Boston, and later engaged in the lumber and grain business.



**Charles A.**, b. June 3, 1864, Mary Ella Lane. She d. July 26, 1879. Ch. *Levi*, *Mary*, b. June 24, 1877. *Mary*, *Abigail*, b. July 28, 1879. Charles A. Corey followed the business of a grocer for many years. (See Town Officers.)

**CROSBY.** The family is now extinct in this town. The one in this country is, Simon of Cambridge, Simon of Billerica, Nathan, Oliver, Oliver, Michael (Dea.) of Bedford, b. 1771, m. 1792, Asenath Blanchard. She d. April 23, 1812. He m. 2d, Lucy Swann, d. Feb. 15, 1836. Ch. *Mary*, b. April 20, 1792. *Asenath*, b. Jan. 6, 1794, d. June 24, 1811. *Levi*, b. Sept. 2, 1795. *Reuben*, b. July 15, 1797, m. May 21, 1818, Nathan Simonds of Burlington. *Mary*, b. June 15, 1799, m. Nov. 11, 1823, Luther Eaton. *Levi*, b. Oct. 2, 1801. *Levi*, b. June 18, 1803, m. John Powers. *George*, b. Mar. 6, 1825. *Asenath*, d. young. *Levi*, d. young. *Asenath*, b. April 23, 1812. Dea. Michael was prominent in the town; was deacon from 1817 till his death.

**George**, m. Abigail H. Gleason of Billerica. Ch. *Michael*, b. Jan. 9, 1833. *George*, b. Mar. 3, 1838. *William*, b. July 6, 1840. *Frederick*, b. Dec. 11, 1842. *Mary Louisa*, b. Aug. 5, 1848. *Levi*, b. Mar. 1, 1851.

**CUTLER.** The family is traced to Holland. The name has various spellings. James was in Watertown as early as 1635. He had a grant of land in 1649 in the

northerly part. The family settled in 1651 at Cambridge Farms, near that part of Concord now included in Bedford. The Cutler settlement was quite extensive.

**Amos B.**, a carpenter and builder, son of Isaac of Ashby and grandson of Thomas of Lexington, a member of Capt. Parker's company of 1775, was b. June 22, 1809, m. April 16, 1833, Mary P. Lane. She d. Nov. 27, 1885. (See Rep. and Town Officers.) Ch. **h** *Emerson Bartlett*, b. 1836. *Leah S. Amos*, b. 1847, m. Sarah, dau. of Varnum Monroe, Two d. young.

**Emerson B.**, m. Abby F., dau. of Elijah Brown, who d. Jan. 1850, m. 2d Catherine Jewett. Ch. *Abbie* m. O. M. Galloway. *Kate I.* m. John Adair. *Frank E.* *Emma A.* m. Herbert Hartford.

**George W.**, son of Isaac, b. 1811, m. Lucy E. Merriam; she d. 1857. 2d, Fannie S. McIntyre of Fitchburg. He d. June, 1873. Ch. *Alon*, b. Oct. 1859. *George Arthur*, b. June, 1864. *Corra L.* b. April, 1863, d. Nov. 1866. *Alfred Willard*, b. Oct. 1865. *Clara*, b. Dec. 3, 1867. *Sarah Emma*, b. April 1, 1870.

**Nathaniel C.**, son of Thomas and grandson of Thomas of Lexington, m. Susan Grace Lane, she d. Feb. 4, 1847; 2d, Catherine Wheeler; 3d, Mrs. Peter Clement. He d. May 13, 1874. Ch. *Grace Ann* was the only one who reached maturity, m. Edwin Gleason, d. Feb. 1888.

**Thomas C.**, brother of Nathaniel C. b. Jan. 16, 1803, came to Bedford at the age of 18, was a carpenter. He was collector of taxes for nearly a quarter of a century. He m. April 17, 1828, Maria Wood; 2d, April 14, 1840, Louis Wheat, d. Feb. 7, 1869; 3d, July 1, 1870, Martha Blodgett, d. May 14, 1879; 4th, Mrs. Mary Hamiford. He d. Dec. 1, 1887. Ch. *Alfred*, b. July 8, 1829. *George*, b. Feb. 1834. *Henry H.*, b. 1834. *Leona*, b. Sept. 10, 1836. By 4th wife, *Clara Colledge*, b. July 7, 1841. (See Military chapter.)

**DAVIS, Dolor**,<sup>1</sup> came, it is probable, from Kent, Eng. He was in Cambridge in 1634, a petitioner for Groton in 1650, having before resided in Barnstable, where he d. 1673. His wife was Margery, sister of Maj. Simon Willard.

**Samuel**,<sup>2</sup> son of Dolor and Margery, m. Jan. 11, 1655-6, Mary Mead or Medwa; 2d, Oct. 18, 1711, Ruth Taylor. Had 7 ch. of whom the fifth was Eleazer,<sup>3</sup> m. 1705, Eunice Bitter, d. 1721, leaving property valued at £112 12 6. His wife m. Richard Wheeler. Ch. **h** *Eleazer*,<sup>4</sup> b. Mar. 5, 1705-6. *Hannah*, b. Oct. 18, 1707, m. Benjamin Wheeler. *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 8, 1709, m. Hannah Smith. *Sarah*, b. Mar. 23, 1711-12, m. Isaac Merriam. *Eunice*, b. Dec. 18, 1716, m. William Marshall. *Rebecca*, b. May 13, 1719, m. Ezra Wheeler. *Abigail*, b. May 16, 1721, m. Ezekiel Davis.

**Eleazer**,<sup>4</sup> m. 1731, Rebecca Chandler, d. Sept. 12, 1748. Ch. **h** *Eleazer*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 30, 1734. *Rebecca*, b. Aug. 2, 1735, m. Zachariah Fitch. *Elizabeth*, d. young. *Abigail*, b. Oct. 23, 1741, m. Solomon Hartwell. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 13, 1743, m. Jonathan Fassett. *Samuel*, d. young.

**Eleazer**,<sup>5</sup> m. Sept. 3, 1756, Mary Davis; she d. Jan. 28, 1763. (See epitaph.) He m. 2d, 1764, Rebecca Putnam. Ch. *Mary*, b. Aug. 10, 1760. *Rebecca*, b. June 18, 1762. 1y 2d wife, *Betsy*, b. Feb. 16, 1765, m. Joseph Adams. *Luce*, b. July 16, 1766, m. Timothy Hartwell. **h** *Eleazer*, b. Jan. 13, 1768. *Joanna* and *Sarah*, twins, b. Aug. 19, 1769; Joanna m. William Hartwell, and Sarah m. Job Webber. *Abigail*, b. Aug. 8, 1774, m. Levi Conant. *Hannah*, b. Aug. 26, 1775, m. James Webber.

**Eleazer**,<sup>6</sup> m. Jan. 1, 1799, Martha Skinner, gr.-dau. of

John Skinner and Martha, dau. of John Whitmore and Mary Lane. He d. Aug. 22, 1841; she d. Oct. 3, 1865. Ch. *Betsy*,<sup>1</sup> b. Dec. 26, 1799, d. Aug. 14, 1879. *John Skinner*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 6, 1801, m. Lucy Chaplin, had *Martha C.*, d. Nov. 26, 1875. *Mary*, b. Mar. 22, 1803, d. Jan. 9, 1843. **h** *Eleazer Page*,<sup>3</sup> b. Jan. 30, 1805. *Susan*, b. Jan. 7, 1807, m. Lewis P. Gleason, d. June 17, 1869. *Martha Joanna*, b. Oct. 5, 1808, d. Feb. 10, 1817. *Benjamin Josiah*,<sup>4</sup> b. Dec. 20, 1810. *Hannah Skinner*, b. May 25, 1813, d. July 22, 1831. *Samuel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 15, 1815. (See note.) *Martha Maria*, b. Sept. 7, 1817, d. May 24, 1884. *George E*<sup>6</sup> b. Sept. 7, 1819, d. Jan. 20, 1851.

**Eleazer Page**,<sup>7</sup> m. Emily W. Reed; 2d, Susan W. Sayles. He d. Mar. 5, 1889; Susan W. Davis d. July 24, 1876. Ch. *Emily Maria*, b. June 13, 1831. *Ellen Amelia*, b. Mar. 10, 1845, m. Abel Fitch. *Abby Caroline*, b. Sept. 14, 1846, m. Charles H. Clark. *Mary Susan*, b. Jan. 15, 1852, d. May 6, 1875. *George Page*,<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 11, 1858. (See deacons.) Eleazer Page Davis<sup>7</sup> was the fifth of the name in five consecutive generations. He was a successful school-master in his early life. He introduced the first black-board used in the schools of this town. He was prominent in town affairs. The last three daughters were teachers.

**Benjamin Josiah Davis**<sup>7</sup> is the owner of the homestead. He is a prosperous farmer, and one who has always enjoyed the confidence of his fellow-townsmen. **Samuel Davis**<sup>7</sup> bears the name of the first of the family who settled in the part of Concord now included in Bedford. By industry and frugality he accumulated property with which he benefits others. He contributed the entire pulpit furniture of the church where he worships, as a memorial of his parents, brothers, and sisters.

**Daniel**,<sup>2</sup> 3d son of Samuel and Mary, was an incorporation of the town and a founder of the church. He m. Mary Hubbard of Concord, and d. Feb. 11, 1741. She m. 2d, Staples of Mendon, and d. Feb. 2, 1769. They had 12 ch. two of whom, Daniel<sup>3</sup> and Josiah,<sup>4</sup> settled in Bedford.

**Stephen**,<sup>3</sup> son of Samuel and Mary, was a petitioner for the new town and a founder of the church. He m. Elizabeth Fletcher, and d. July 11, 1738. Six ch. d. in infancy. *Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 11, 1714, m. June 27, 1732, James Hosmer of Concord.

**Josiah**,<sup>4</sup> son of Daniel and Mary (Hubbard), m. Elizabeth Raymond. She d. Jan. 15, 1763. They had 9 ch. of whom Paul<sup>5</sup> d. in the war of 1763. (See epitaph.) (For *Josiah*,<sup>5</sup> b. 1737, m. Mary Woolley, see Homesteads.)

**Daniel**,<sup>4</sup> son of Daniel<sup>3</sup> and Mary, m. May 1, 1766, Susanna Lane. He d. and she m. Nov. 23, 1799, Ebenezer Richardson of Billerica for his sixth wife. Ch. *Susanna*, b. Nov. 6, 1767, m. Josiah Hill. Other ch. b. at Harvard were *Sally*, m. Brooks of Lincoln. *Lydia*, m. Nehemiah Flint of Concord. *Lorinamah*, m. John Hill of Billerica.

**Stephen**,<sup>4</sup> son of Stephen and Elizabeth Fletcher, was a land surveyor of skill; his plan of the Lane share of Winthrop farm, made in 1763, is still of value. He was a deacon of the church from 1760 till death. He m. Elizabeth Brown, who d. 1789. He d. 1787. Ch. **h** *Thaddeus*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 8, 1754. *Lydia*, b. April 17, 1756. *Dorcas*, b. Oct. 21, 1758. *Hannah*, b. June 5, 1761. *John*, b. June 7, 1769.

**Thaddeus**,<sup>5</sup> was in the Revolutionary War from Bedford, later a deacon of Baptist church of Woburn. He m. 1779, Sarah Stearns, who d. Mar. 26, 1807. Ch. *Sally*, b. July 22, 1780. **h** *Thaddeus*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 3, 1782. *Betsy*, b. Dec. 30, 1783. *Stephen*,<sup>6</sup> b. July 20, 1787. *Polly*, b. April 2, 1789.

*Nancy*, b. May 28, 1791. *Isaac Stearns*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 20, 1794, d. Nov. 8, 1817, at New Orleans. *Sally*, b. Sept. 18, 1795, m. Capt. John Tidd, d. Aug. 20, 1822.

**Thaddens**,<sup>6</sup> m. 1805, Sally Gilson, who d. May 10, 1855. He d. June 21, 1806. *Ch. I Thaddens II*,<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 8, 1806. *Samuel*,<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 17, 1808, d. Dec. 2, 1881. *Horace*,<sup>7</sup> b. May 5, 1810. *George*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 11, 1812. *Sarah*,<sup>7</sup> S. b. Jan. 17, 1815, m. J. M. Borrowhs, d. Aug. 22, 1851. *Mary*, b. June 13, 1817, m. Gardner French. *Louisa*,<sup>7</sup> S. b. Mar. 20, 1821. *Susan*, b. April 4, 1824, m. Josiah Kingman, d. Aug. 10, 1852.

**Thaddeus II**,<sup>7</sup> was deacon of Church of Christ of Bedford, often in town office. He m. May 4, 1837, Almira Stearns, who d. 1882. He d. 1885. *Ch. Sarah A.*, b. April, 1838, m. Charles Webber. *Ch. George Thaddeus*,<sup>8</sup> b. July 29, 1840. *Samuel H*,<sup>8</sup> d. young. *Ch. Frederick*,<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 20, 1845. *Mary E.*, b. Feb. 18, 1848.

**George Thaddeus**,<sup>8</sup> settled in the South after the Civil War, where he is a man of wealth and influence. He m. Jan. 18, 1872, Abbie Simonds of Lexington, who d. Mar. 1880. *Ch. Edith May*, b. 1873. *Harriet Thaddeus*,<sup>9</sup> b. 1876 (the fifth generation of Thaddeus). *Annie Maud*, b. 1881.

**Frederick**, settled on the homestead. He was in the Civil War, &c. &c. He m. Nov. 10, 1808, Mary Etta, dau. of John T. Boynton and Mary Adams.

**Fairfield R.**, b. in Nashua, N.H., 1830, settled in Bedford 1804; a town officer; m. 1854 Caroline E. Lane, d. June 30, 1807. *Ch. Abigail*, b. Feb. 5, 1858, m. Rufus E. Bellows of Dorchester. *William*, b. 1801, d. 1803. *George H*,<sup>6</sup> b. Dec. 6, 1800, m. Emily I. Bellows of Dorchester.

**DEAN, Benjamin**, m. June 10, 1707, Sarah Colburn, *Ch. F. A.*,<sup>1</sup> b. 1708, m. John Moore, d. 1732.

**Thomas**, m. Feb. 6, 1607, Susan Davis of Boston. He d. Mar. 5, 1743; she d. 1765. He was a petitioner for the incorporation, lived on the high land east of Cedar Swamp, and gave a three-acre lot "for the encouragement of the Gospel," upon which it is thought the first meeting-house was built. Mrs. Susanna Dean, widow of Thomas, bequeathed £70, "S<sup>d</sup> lawful money" to the church to purchase a silver cup; to Rev. Nicholas Bowes, £10; to John Moore her "meeting-house pue;" gun to John Dinsmore of Hobs, N.H. John and Joseph Moore had residue of estate.

**DESMAYES, John Baptist**, an olive merchant of Bordeaux, France, had son *John*, who came to this country about 1775, m. Lucy Fletcher Amory of Boston, had John, b. April 17, 1794 (in the 1812 war), m. Oct. 8, 1815, Nancy Dale of Andover. They had 6 ch. of whom Henry, b. Feb. 9, 1832, settled in Bedford in 1806. William settled in New York.

**DURRANT, or DUREN**. The name was prominent in town during the Revolution and later. They were from Billerica. John<sup>4</sup> was there in 1650.

**Jonas**,<sup>4</sup> m. Dec. 17, 1776, Esther Jones of Bedford, *Ch. Abigail*,<sup>4</sup> m. July 15, 1778. *Anna*, b. Oct. 7, 1781.

**Renben**,<sup>4</sup> m. Jan. 11, 1770, Mary Gould of Chelm-ford. He d. Jan. 4, 1821; she d. Oct. 10, 1825. *Ch. Elizabeth*,<sup>4</sup> d. an infant. *Mary*, b. Dec. 7, 1771, m. Stephen Parker. *Renben*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 14, 1775, m. Sarah Conant of Concord. *Anna*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 11, 1778, m. Hannah Russ. *Joseph*,<sup>5</sup> b. June 22, 1780, m. Lydia Conant of Concord. *Martha*,<sup>5</sup> G<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 20,

1781. He took his mother's name, lived with an uncle in New Ipswich, N.H., became a famous penman and music teacher. He was the first teacher of singing in juvenile schools. *Joseph*,<sup>5</sup> b. July 30, 1784, m. Lucinda Clark, was a pensioner for service in 1812 war. *Elnathan*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 8, 1786, m. Dec. 10, 1811, Elizabeth Freeman, had sons Charles and Elnathan Freeman. Renben Duren<sup>4</sup> was an architect and builder. He built some of the first-class dwelling-houses of the town, of which Col. Timothy Jones' and Rev. Mr. Penniman's mansions were specimens. He lived in this town until 1792, when he purchased a tavern in Billerica, which he kept until he removed to N.H. In the history of New Ipswich he is noticed as a resolute and enterprising man, and was distinguished as a builder of meeting-houses. He received a premium for a model for a bridge over Merrimac River at Pawtucket Falls against many competitors.

**DUTTON**. Several of the name have lived in this town at different periods of its history.

**Samuel**, m. Aug. 10, 1740, Martha, dau. of James Lane<sup>3</sup> and Martha Minot. *Ch. Putnam*, b. April 10, 1742, m. Dec. 13, 1764, David Pollard. *Samuel*, b. July 11, 1743. *Hannah*, b. April 21, 1745. *Sarah*, b. April 9, 1747.

**Samuel**, third generation of the Christian name, from Ashby, m. Nov. 28, 1805, Anna, dau. of Solomon Lane,<sup>3</sup> *Ch. Samuel Stearns, Solomon Lane, Laura Ann*, m. Varnum Spaulding.

**George**, son of Samuel of Ashby, b. June 11, 1804 (one of fourteen children), m. Nov. 27, 1828, Lydia F. Jaquith of Billerica. He d. July 12, 1867. *Ch. Lydia Ann*, b. Oct. 20, 1820, m. Joseph Foster; 2d, Daniel Giles; d. Aug. 17, 1882. *Mary Jane*, b. June 1, 1831, m. John B. Hill. *Emily Maria*, b. Oct. 13, 1832, d. July 5, 1849. *Susan L.*, b. Mar. 20, 1835, m. Aug. 10, 1858, John F. Blinn. *Louisa C.*, b. Nov. 22, 1841, m. 1st, Aug. 2, 1863, Elbridge Chaffies; 2d, Mar. 8, 1883, George Burgess. *Laura A.*, b. Sept. 28, 1843, m. Charles L. Flint. *P. Lillian*, b. Dec. 23, 1747, d. June 15, 1859.

**Hiram L.**, son of Hildeth Dutton and — Putnam, and grandson of William from England and Susanna Reed of Westford, b. April 11, 1815, m. April, 4, 1843, Ellen Towne of Salem, and settled in Bedford (see Homesteads). *Ch. Harriet L.*, b. Nov. 24, 1844. *Ch. George H.*, b. Mar. 26, 1846. *Eden E.*, b. April 20, 1847, d. Nov. 15, 1847. *Louisa*, b. Dec. 4, 1848. *Ch. Frederick*, b. Jan. 11, 1851. *William F.*, b. June 20, 1853, d. Mar. 5, 1854. *Ch. William*, b. Mar. 20, 1855, d. July 16, 1806. *Harriet E.*, b. Aug. 18, 1858. *Edith L.*, b. July 23, 1862.

**George H.**, m. Oct. 9, 1870, Harriet Hartwell. She d. April 20, 1883. *Ch. Warren Hartwell*, b. Aug. 28, 1871. *Harriet Pige*, b. Oct. 10, 1875. *Mary E.*, b. Mar. 11, 1877. *Henry Taylor*, b. May 4, 1880. *Isabel Thompson*, b. July 19, 1882.

**EVERETT, William**, a chaise trimmer and harness maker, settled here about 1820, memorial seen in meeting-house gift of granddaughter. He, m. Anna C. Dickson, who d. Feb. 20, 1857; 2d, Eliza A. Lane. He d. July 4, 1868; she d. Jan. 28, 1873. *Ch. William D.*, m. Mary Clark, d. June 6, 1853. His ch. were Annie E. m. J. E. Maynard. Marion D. m. Samuel G. Carter, d. Oct. 27, 1884.

**FASSETT**. A numerous family here in the early years. Name is extinct. They were of Scotch origin, and their blood still courses in the Page, Lane, and Webber families.

In the South tax list of 1748 are the names of Peter, John, and Benjamin; and in the North list is Josiah's.

**John**, m. Mar. 31, 1697, Mary Hill of Billerica. He d. Jan. 30, 1736; she d. May 19, 1749. (See Town Officers and Physicians). Samuel, brother of John, was first town treas. of Westford, where he settled, m. Lydia Parker, and had a large family.

**Josiah**, Capt. m. Joanna Page, d. Feb. 18, 1740. Ch. *Susanna*, m. Job Lane.<sup>4</sup> *Asa*, m. Nov. 9, 1777, Margaret (Wellington) widow of Timothy Page. Ch. were Josiah, d. young, Timothy, Amos, Benjamin.

**FITCH, Zachariah**,<sup>1</sup> had forty acres of land set to him among the inhabitants of Lynn in 1638, when he was made a freeman. He removed to Lynn village (South Reading) in 1644. There were two others of the surname at about that time, Jeremy and Henry. They were all farmers. Zachariah was a deacon of the church in Reading. His residence was on "Fitch Hill." In a centennial poem by Eaton written in 1844 is the following:—

"I further looked, and on the hill,  
Where now the heirs of John Gould dwell,  
Upon the western slope or pitch,  
There lived old Zachariah Fitch.  
His name he gave to hill and lane,  
A name they both as yet retain."

He d. June 9, 1662. In his will, dated May 3 of that year, he mentions wife Mary, sons Joseph, Benjamin, John, Jeremiah, Thomas, Samuel, and daughter Sarah, who m. John Wesson of Salem. Benjamin was executor. He requested in his will that Joseph and Benjamin should assist Samuel (then under age, 18 yrs.) "to build a house on his lot on Bear Hill, 27 by 18 feet with 12-foot posts, and to clap-board and board it, and break up his land or so much of it as can be done by the time he becomes 22 years of age." His estate was appraised £431 7s. 6d.

**Samuel**<sup>2</sup> (youngest son of Zachariah and Mary), b. Mar. 6, 1645, m. April 23, 1673, Sarah, dau. of Job Lane. She d. Oct. 2, 1679. He m. 2d, July 26, 1681, Rebecca Merriam. He d. 1684, leaving **h Samuel**,<sup>3</sup> b. May 4, 1674, to whom he gave by will real estate, and "on cow, the feather-bed that was his mother's, and the green rug and on pair of Holland sheets and three of the biggest penter platters." "I do leave as my will, if my brother Avery (Robert) doth (exhort?) to take my son Samuel and to teach him to wright and the trade of a smith, my will is that he shall live with him till 20 years old." Estate appraisal was £235 11s.

**Samuel**,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 20, 1695, Elizabeth Walker, dau. of Joseph. She d. Nov. 26, 1716. He m. 2d, Eunice Taylor. He d. April 4, 1742; she d. Aug. 27, 1767, aged 91. Ch. *Sarah*, b. and d. 1696. *Sarah*, b. May 4, 1698, m. Richard Hixon. *Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 14, 1699, m. 1732, Joanna Kidder, settled in Westford, d. Jan. 1775. **h Joseph**,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 22, 1702. **h Benjamin**,<sup>4</sup> b. July 30, 1703. *John*,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 12, 1707-8, settled in Lunenburg 1728, and doubtless the one for whom Fitchburg was named. **h Jeremiah**,<sup>4</sup> b. (?). **h Zachariah**,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 13, 1712. By 2d wife, *Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 22, 1718, m. Joseph Mead. For the homestead of Samuel Fitch<sup>1</sup> see Brookside. His will dated Nov. 13, 1741, gives wife Eunice west end of dwelling-house and cellar, and corn, rye, beef, pork and necessities, to be provided by son Jeremiah, who was to have all at his mother's decease, excepting legacies to other ch.

**Joseph**,<sup>4</sup> Capt. (see William W. Farrell Homestead), m. Jan. 31, 1731, Sarah Grimes of Lexington (first marriage

recorded in Bedford). She d. Jan. 22, 1750. He m. 2d, Mrs. Rachel Convers, widow of Joseph. He d. Feb. 7, 1769, and she m. John Page. Ch. *Sarah*, b. Mar. 25, 1732, bap. with her father, April 30, 1732, m. 1750, Josiah Crosby, settled in Amherst, now Milford, N.H., in 1753, on the Souhegan river. They were pioneers in the wilderness, where they founded a noted family. *Molly*, b. Oct. 16, 1737, m. Jonathan Blodgett. *Susannah*, b. July 26, 1743, m. Josiah Munroe. *Joseph*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 2, 1746, settled at No. 2, N.H., conveyed estate in 1769 to Joseph Converse, q. v. by 2d wife, **h Thaddeus**,<sup>5</sup> b. March 23, 1755.

**Benjamin**<sup>4</sup> (son of Samuel<sup>3</sup>) bought the Bacon mill on the Shawshine, q. v., m. Feb. 28, 1732, Miriam Gray of Andover, and d. July 7, 1770. Ch. *Hannah*, b. Jan. 10, 1733, m. Aug. 1, 1751, David Tarbell. *Miriam*, b. Jan. 23, 1734-5, m. Sept. 11, 1778, Timothy Jaquith. *Benjamin*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 6, 1736-7. *Louis*, b. Oct. 31, 1740, m. Nov. 21, 1776, Edward Powers. **h David**,<sup>5</sup> b. May 22, 1743. *Lydia*, d. young. *Eunice*, b. July 26, 1747, m. Daniel McNickle. *Nathan*,<sup>5</sup> d. young. *Isaac*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 18, 1752 (see epitaph). *Nathan*, b. May 13, 1755.

**Jeremiah**<sup>4</sup> (son of Samuel<sup>3</sup>), m. Feb. 3, 1735-6, Elizabeth, dau. of Col. John and Catherine Lane. Ch. *Samuel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 9, 1736. *Elizabeth*, d. young. **h Jeremiah**,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 25, 1742. *John* and *Matthaeus*, twins, b. Aug. 14, 1745. *John* d. May 31, 1820; *Matthew* m. Aug. 25, 1774, Lydia Lane, and d. Aug. 3, 1811. *Joanna*, b. Feb. 29, 1747-8, m. Benjamin Tidd of Lexington. *Pattie*, b. July 14, 1750. *Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 7, 1752, d. Mar. 1, 1825. *h Moses*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 3, 1755. All of the sons of Jeremiah<sup>4</sup>, excepting Samuel, are recorded as in the war of the Revolution.

**Zachariah**,<sup>4</sup> m. Oct. 1, 1733, Elizabeth Grimes of Lexington; she d. Mar. 12, 1790. Ch. *Zachariah*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 1, 1734, m. Rebekah Davis, settled in Groton. *William*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 19, 1735-6, killed in the French War. *Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 6, 1738-9, m. Samuel Lane. *Jonas*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 5, 1740-1, settled in Groton. He was a man of great mechanical genius, especially in the art of clock making; all the movements of his clocks were made by his hands. These timepieces are still owned in Pepperell and Groton. A grandson and namesake inherited his mechanical aptitude. Masonic Temple, Fitchburg depot, and City Hall, in Boston, are monuments of his skill.  *Ebenezer*, *Esther*, and *Lucy* d. young. *Esther*, b. Oct. 13, 1749, m. Nehemiah Lawrence. *Ebenezer*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 5, 1751, was a Minute Man; removed to Rindge, N.H., in 1779; was duly "warned out," but settled and became prominent. *Lucy*, b. July 6, 1753, m. Joseph Hill of Billerica. *Sarah*, b. Jan. 2, 1755. *Phoebe*, b. Nov. 25, 1756, m. April 1, 1784, John Sprague. (See Homesteads.) *Alles*, b. Nov. 10, 1759, m. Henry Woods, Jr. *Daniel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 21, 1764, d. Oct. 12, 1843.

**Thaddeus**,<sup>5</sup> a Revolutionary pensioner, son of Joseph<sup>4</sup> and Mrs. Rachel Converse, m. Sept. 14, 1779, Mary, dau. of John Moore, Jr. and Mary Wheeler. Ch. *Mary*, b. Dec. 29, 1779, m. Oliver Reed. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 22, 1781. *Joseph*,<sup>5</sup> b. July 10, 1797, d. Dec. 30, 1830.

**David**,<sup>5</sup> son of Benjamin<sup>4</sup> inherited the homestead and mill from his father. He m. April 3, 1770, Mary Fowie of Woburn. He d. July 27, 1813; she d. Sept. 19, 1829. Ch. *Polly*, b. Oct. 23, 1770, m. Benjamin Wheeler of Concord, N.H. *Lydia*, b. Dec. 7, 1772, m. Nathaniel Page. **h David**,<sup>6</sup> b. June 28, 1777. *Isaac*,<sup>5</sup> (See epitaph.)

**Jeremiah**,<sup>5</sup> son of Jeremiah<sup>4</sup> m. April 19, 1770, Lydia Smith of Waltham. He d. Dec. 29, 1808; she d. Sept. 10,

1823. Ch. *Alford* and two *Lydias* d. young. **h** *Jeremiah*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 14, 1778. **h** *Almon*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 8, 1780. **h** *Ar*,<sup>6</sup> b. July 26, 1782. *John*,<sup>6</sup> b. Feb. 6, 1785, d. Feb. 2, 1820. **h** *Alford*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 2, 1786. Jeremiah Fitch<sup>6</sup> was sergeant in the company of militia of Bedford in 1775. (See Stone Croft Farm, Chap. XXXIV.)

**Moses**,<sup>7</sup> son of Jeremiah,<sup>4</sup> m. Nov. 14, 1782, Rachel, dau. of Edward and Lucy Stearns. He d. Oct. 12, 1825; she d. May 23, 1817. Ch. *Salomon*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 8, 1783, settled in Littleton, N.H., had large family. *Lucy*, b. July 17, 1785, m. John Page. **h** *Moses*,<sup>6</sup> b. Mar. 28, 1787. *Elnah*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1790, settled in Boston. He d. Mar. 7, 1840, leaving a family. *Rachel*, b. Nov. 30, 1791, m. Joseph Brown. **h** *Joel*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 12, 1794. *Nathan*, d. young. Moses Fitch<sup>6</sup> was at Concord, entered the Continental army, was wounded at the battle of White Plains, N.Y., and was a pensioner. He was deacon from Jan. 10, 1805, till death. He, with son Joel and daughter Rachel (Fitch) Brown, are honored by a memorial window in the meeting-house of the Trinitarian Congregational society (a gift of their descendants).

**David**<sup>6</sup> continued the family possession of the mill and homestead. He m. Nov. 12, 1799, Hannah Proctor, d. Dec. 22, 1803; 2d, Jan. 8, 1805, Olive Simonds, d. Sept. 20, 1858; 3d, Mrs. Susan Adams of Billerica. He d. May 24, 1800. Ch. **h** *Daniel*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 20, 1802. *Hannah Proctor*, b. Dec. 10, 1803, m. Dr. Bela Gardner, q.v., d. Jan. 20, 1844. By 2d wife, *Mary Fowle*, d. an infant. *Mary Fowle*, b. May 20, 1807, m. Benjamin F. Hartwell. **h** *Abel*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 25, 1809. **h** *Nathan*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 13, 1811. *Jonathan Simonds*,<sup>7</sup> d. young. *Martha Simonds*, b. May 20, 1817, m. Nathan O. Reed. *Olivia*, b. April 24, 1820, m. May 23, 1854, Robert A. Cook, d. May 20, 1891, at Sackville, N.B. *Isaac*<sup>7</sup> and *Lucy*, twins, b. Dec. 23, 1824; Isaac d. Feb. 13, 1825; Lucy d. May 5, 1854. Mary Fowle (Fitch) Hartwell received from her father the homestead in the centre of the town, which she continued in the family possession by deed of gift to her daughter, Mary Alzina (Hartwell) Fletcher.

**Jeremiah**,<sup>4</sup> m. May 10, 1804, Mary Rand of Chelmsford.\* He d. July 13, 1840; she d. Mar. 3, 1840. Ch. two named *Caroline Matilda* d. young. *Caroline Matilda*, b. Sept. 1, 1808. *Jeremiah Gould*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 10, 1810, Harvard College 1831, d. Feb. 25, 1845. *Mary Rand*, b. Aug. 30, 1813, m. April 7, 1841, John Henry Jenks, d. June 13, 1881, had 6 children, four of whom survived her. The author is happy to insert here a biographical sketch prepared, at his request, by Rev. Henry Fitch Jenks.

Jeremiah Fitch, the eldest son of Jeremiah, Jr., and Lydia (Sneth) Fitch, was born in Bedford, May 14, 1778. He received the common education of a country town. His father wished him to devote himself to farming, and as an inducement offered him the paternal farm; but, being of an enterprising spirit, and not having any inclination to agricultural pursuits, nor finding any other occupation which it was possible for him to follow in the town congenial, he left Bedford, at the age of fourteen, and came to Charlestown, with a capital of twenty cents, and, unaided by any one, set himself to procure employment.

He soon secured a situation with Mr. Samuel Ruggles,

\* Mary Rand was born at Chelmsford, whither her mother had gone from Boston, owing to the excitement in the latter town when occupied by the British. Her physician was Dr. Danforth, and she was helped away by his son, Tom, who was a Quaker. She carried with her a trunk of 20 lb. The sentinel opposed her going, but Danforth interfered in her behalf with seeming roughness of manner, and said, "Oh, let the woman go!"

and from that time relieved his father from all pecuniary responsibility for his support. By diligent attention to business, he won the confidence of his employers, and gradually rose to higher positions.

After a time he removed from Charlestown to Boston. When he became of age he was assisted to begin business for himself, but by the failure of his patrons he was involved in embarrassments, from which it took him a long time to extricate himself. His conduct under these circumstances, however, won him friends, who offered him capital and assistance. The offers were accepted, and diligence and carefulness secured him success. Prosperity followed his efforts, and he accumulated what for those days was a respectable fortune.

He first began business under the firm name of Nolan & Fitch, in 1799. Later he continued as an importer of dry goods under his own name, or that of Jeremiah Fitch & Co. He first occupied in Boston, in 1802, what was then 27 Cornhill (now Washington Street); in 1819 he removed to 5 Market Street (now Cornhill), and later, in 1826, after the great fire, to 38 and 40 Central Street.

He was always esteemed for straightforwardness and integrity in his dealings. For nearly twenty years he was a director of the Union Bank and of the Mercantile Marine Insurance Company. For many years he was a member of the Board of Health, retiring in 1821 to become a member of the last Board of Selectmen of the town of Boston; in 1824 he was a member of the Common Council, and in 1825 an overseer of the poor of the City of Boston.

He was an attendant at the church in Brattle Square, under the ministrations of Mr. Buckminster, Mr. Palfrey, and Mr. Lothrop, and long a member of the standing committee. During his service the old cannon ball which struck the Church during the siege of Boston and then had done duty for many years as a weight on the front gate of a neighboring residence, was by his instrumentality imbedded in the front of the edifice, where it so long remained, an object of interest not merely to strangers visiting the city, but to many now living who can well remember it.

He was hospitable to a high degree. Retaining the old farm which had been his father's, he kept to the last his interest in his native town, and always welcomed to his city home his country friends and neighbors, and gladly did whatever he could for the benefit of the town. To the old church which he habitually attended he gave a clock and a pulpit Bible; and when the separation of the churches—which he greatly deplored—took place, he gave to the newly formed society, of which his old friend Rev. Samuel Stearns remained the minister, a piece of land on which to build the meeting-house.\*

\* Mr. Fitch's benevolence was not of the *post mortem* kind, but he freely and quietly gave of his accumulating wealth during his life, his donations being frequently made by the hand of his friend and early pastor, Rev. Samuel Stearns, with whom there was a mutual understanding. The pastor's notice was sufficient to bring relief in any case of need in the town. The spacious kitchen of the old Fitch Tavern was turned to a storehouse at the annual Thanksgiving season, and from it was dispensed that which brought cheer to many a widow's home. When driving to his native town, Mr. Fitch often dropped packages of books at the schoolhouse door, and each pupil had a share. Souvenirs of these days, when books were rare and costly, are carefully treasured in many of the old homes of the present. Adults were not infrequently remembered. The author's library contains a volume of the "Panoplist," the Trinitarian organ during the religious controversy, in which is the following, written on the "leaflet": Presented by Jeremiah Fitch, and distributed with a few other Bibles, at his request, by Rev. Samuel

The name of Pond Lane in Boston was changed to Bedford Street in compliment to him.

He was married in Boston, May 10, 1804, by Rev. William Emerson, pastor of First Church, to Mary, daughter of Robert Rand of Boston, and took up his residence in Hanover Street. Subsequently he lived in Cornhill (Washington Street), Portland Street, and Hamilton Place.

Mrs. Fitch was born Dec. 14, 1776, and died March 3, 1840, four months previous to his decease, which occurred at his residence, 1 Hamilton place, July 10, 1840. They were both buried nearly opposite their old residence in a tomb in the Granary Burying Ground.

**Almon,**<sup>6</sup> son of Jeremiah,<sup>5</sup> m. Mar. 28, 1814, Martha Wood. He d. Nov. 23, 1820; she d. May 27, 1873. Ch. *Zydia S.* b. May 14, 1815, m. Joseph Skinner, d. Nov. 3, 1857. *Albert*<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 14, 1817, lives in Lexington.

**Alford,**<sup>6</sup> son of Jeremiah,<sup>5</sup> m. June 4, 1818, Sally Reed. She d. Aug. 23, 1820; he d. June 22, 1852. Ch. *Sally Reed*, b. Feb. 10, 1820.

**Amos,**<sup>6</sup> son of Jeremiah,<sup>5</sup> m. April 7, 1813, Martha Starr of Roxbury, d. Dec. 14, 1826. Ch. *Martha L.* b. Feb. 5, 1814, m. Joseph W. Page. *John A.* d. in infancy. *John J.* b. Jan. 10, 1817.

**Moses,**<sup>6</sup> son of Moses,<sup>5</sup> m. Dec. 6, 1810, Polly Brown, d. Aug. 1, 1824. She m. 2d — Brown, and settled in Michigan, d. about 1886. Ch. *John Moses*,<sup>7</sup> b. July 8, 1811, m. Catherine Bacon, settled in Michigan and became prominent.

**Joel,**<sup>6</sup> son of Moses,<sup>5</sup> m. Feb. 18, 1819, Susanna Hill. He d. Aug. 4, 1845; she d. Oct. 21, 1882. Ch. three d. young. *Susanna*, b. Feb. 8, 1827, grad. at Mt. Holyoke Sem. 1847, m. Joseph G. Marchant of Illinois, has a large family. *Rachel Ann*, b. Aug. 14, 1820, grad. at Mt. Holyoke Sem. 1849, m. David G. Rabb of Indiana, has a large family. *Moses Josiah*<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 24, 1834, studied at Lawrence Acad. Groton, m. Carrie E. Starr, settled in Chicago, Ill.; is the founder of the Fitch Paper Co., deacon of a church, and a man of wealth and influence. *Delia Adelaide*, b. May 17, 1840, d. Oct. 24, 1846. Joel Fitch<sup>6</sup> settled on the homestead, and later moved to the village and engaged in mercantile business, which he followed till death. He was a deacon of the Church of Christ from 1835 till death, a justice of the peace, and a man of prominence.

**David,**<sup>7</sup> son of David,<sup>6</sup> m. Mar. 31, 1825, Betsey Buttrick. He d. May 10, 1851; she d. Oct. 1, 1889. Ch. *Betsy*, b. June 26, 1826, m. Lorenzo Pool of Perry, N.H. *Emily*, b. Dec. 26, 1827, m. Henry F. Marshall of Pelham, N.H. *David*<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 3, 1832, m. Sarah Williams of Lexington, has 4 ch. *Ann*, b. Sept. 15, 1834, m. William S. Jordan of Woburn. *John*<sup>8</sup> b. June 17, 1836, d. Sept. 4, 1855. *Sarah*, b. July 6, 1838, d. April 9, 1855. *Abel*<sup>8</sup> b. May 10, 1840, m. Mrs. Thompson of Cambridge. *Albert*<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 18, 1842, was killed at battle of Chancellorsville in the Civil War in 1863. *Helan*, b. Mar. 29, 1846, d.

Stearns." Early in this century there was but one newspaper subscribed for in the town, yet many homes were supplied with the current news by Mr. Fitch.

Miss Caroline M. Fitch possesses many of the commendable traits of character of her father. The same unostentatious benevolence has characterized her life. Early inventions for the relief of the bed-ridden were furnished by her, books were freely dispensed, and the Public Library is now a channel through which she scatters blessings to all ages. At the organization of the High School, in 1885, she gave one hundred volumes as a nucleus for a school library.

AUTHOR.

**Abel,**<sup>7</sup> son of David,<sup>6</sup> m. Oct. 6, 1835, Nancy Bacon, d. Oct. 16, 1839. She m. 2d Nathan O. Reed. Ch. *Nancy Jane*, b. Aug. 16, 1836, m. Joseph B. Lawrence. *h Abel Porter*<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 17, 1837. *Henry Braniard*,<sup>8</sup> b. and d. 1839.

**Nathan,**<sup>7</sup> son of David,<sup>6</sup> was the fourth and last generation of the family to follow the business of a miller, m. Sept. 9, 1834, Louisa Burnham. He d. Mar. 21, 1890; she d. May 30, 1889. Ch. *h Nathan Andrew*,<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 9, 1835. *h Isaac Emerson*,<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 30, 1836. *h Benjamin*,<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 30, 1838. *h Silas*,<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 1, 1840. *h Alamanzo*,<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 12, 1843. *Marshall*, b. Dec. 16, 1844, d. April 28, 1845. *Martha*, b. Oct. 28, 1846, m. Henry Davis of Somerville. *Oliver M.* b. Oct. 2, 1848, m. George A. Hartwell. *h David L. B.*<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 17, 1851. *h Franklin P.*,<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 1855.

**Nathan Andrew,**<sup>8</sup> m. 1859, Calista Tarbell of Rindge, N.H. Ch. *Nellie Louisa*, b. Dec. 23, 1860, m. 1882, Silas B. Fales. *Henry Warren*,<sup>9</sup> b. Jan. 25, 1866, m. 1890, Fontinelle A. Wilbur. *Lucy Beatrice*, b. April 16, 1876. Nathan A. Fitch<sup>7</sup> left his native town at the age of sixteen years, and engaged in the provision business in the city of Boston, which he still follows. His only advantages for early education were such as could be obtained at the district schools. In 1858 he became associated with the Baptist Bethel, devoted to the interests of seamen. He has been superintendent of the Sabbath school connected with that church thirty years, and a faithful friend of the sailors. He was a member of the Board of Aldermen of Somerville in 1883-4, and is prominent in the fraternities of Free Masons and Odd Fellows. He has followed the injunction, "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord," and been abundantly prospered.

**Isaac Emerson,**<sup>8</sup> son of Nathan,<sup>7</sup> a carpenter, m. Mar. 27, 1861, Sarah C. Pearson. Ch. *Betsy Ida*, b. Nov. 16, 1863, m. Clinton De Witt Fox. *Florence*, b. 1869.

**Benjamin,**<sup>8</sup> a merchant in Boston, m. Martha S. Goodwin of Milton, N.H.; 2d, Elizabeth W. Shute of Boston. Ch. *Mary Alice*, *Louis B.* b. 1868, d. 1875. *Nathan Goodwin*<sup>9</sup>, *Albert M. B.* b. 1874, d. 1876. *Arthur S.*<sup>9</sup>

**Silas,**<sup>8</sup> m. Julia H. Rollins of Concord, N.H. Ch. *Nellie*.

**Alamanzo,**<sup>8</sup> a merchant, m. Annie M. Steinhilber. Ch. *Mertie S.* m. William H. Dowd. *Wallace A.*<sup>9</sup> *Willie B.*<sup>9</sup>

**David L. B.,**<sup>8</sup> son of Nathan,<sup>7</sup> a farmer, m. May 23, 1877, Lizzie Crother. Ch. *David H.*<sup>9</sup> b. Sept. 18, 1878. *Edward B.*<sup>9</sup> b. May 8, 1880. *Walter F.*<sup>9</sup> b. June 7, 1887.

**Franklin P.,**<sup>8</sup> son of Nathan,<sup>7</sup> a farmer at the mill homestead, m. June 22, 1879, Mary E. Hensley. Ch. *Franklin P.*<sup>9</sup> b. and d. 1880. *Nathan H.*<sup>9</sup> b. May 26, 1881. *George A.*<sup>9</sup> b. April 15, 1884.

**Abel Porter,**<sup>8</sup> son of Abel,<sup>7</sup> m. Mar. 30, 1865, Ellen A. Davis. Ch. *Winfred Porter*,<sup>9</sup> b. Aug. 3, 1870, was one of the first class that graduated from Bedford High School. *Alice Maria*, b. Jan. 5, 1872. *Horace Wilbur*,<sup>9</sup> b. and d. 1874.

(For French, see Homesteads.)

**FLINT.** The name has never been common in Bedford. Those who have settled here, as far as known, descended from Hon. Thomas, who came to Concord, in 1638, from Matlock, Derbyshire, Eng. "He brought with him £4,000 sterling. He possessed wealth, talents, and a Christian character. He represented the town four years, from 1638 to 1641, and was an assistant eleven years, 1642 to 1653. In 1640 he was allowed to perform the marriage service in the towns of Concord and Sudbury. He accom-

panied the Apostle Eliot in his visits to the Indian settlements on the Merrimack River and vicinity. He settled in Concord about half a mile north of the Old North Bridge. The house was built very near the Concord River, on a slight rise of land. It is said that he selected the spot because of its resemblance to the location which he left in England, near the Darwent River." He d. Oct. 8, 1853, aged 50 years. His will is the first recorded in Middlesex County Probate Records.

**Abel and Edward**, probably of the sixth generation, were attracted to Bedford by the shoe business. Abel m. Susan Powers. He d. 1863; she d. 1887. Ch. *Charles Z. Abel*, b. Aug. 5, 1832, m. Aug. 3, 1863, Lucy A. Putnam. **Edward** m. 1851, Sarah Bacon. He d. Mar. 14, 1873; she d. Sept. 13, 1875. Ch. *Nora C. Abel*, b. Mar. 16, 1833, m. E. P. Libby, d. Aug. 25, 1868, had son Frank P.

**Sarah J.** b. in Shrewsbury, Aug. 14, 1848, is of the seventh generation. The line is Thomas, John, Thomas, John, Joel, Henry, Harrison, Sarah J. She came to Bedford in 1872, as a teacher in the grammar school, m. Oct. 11, 1877, Abram English Brown.

**Rev. Franklin C.** of the seventh generation, brother of the above, d. in Shrewsbury, Mar. 13, 1876, leaving family general in process of completion. His three daughters were afterwards wedded with this town. They are Cyrene Louise, a teacher, who prepared the pen sketches for this volume; Gertrude, a teacher, and Marion Lenore.

**FROST, William F.** son of Eben<sup>2</sup> m. b. July 27, 1818; s. of the first of the present families of Concord (who was born in New Bedford, Oct. 1, 1804; d. April 3, 1864). He m. 1841, Anna L. Warts, d. in Mass. 23, 1886. Had 4 children, viz., *William F. Frost*, b. Feb. 17, 1842.

**GILLOOLY, Bryan**, s. of John, b. in Kebleton home, Shrewsbury, 1796; d. in Stone, Oct. 10, 1877; Margaret Doyl, b. 1804; d. 1880. Ch. *Mary J.*, b. July 16, 1833, m. Nov. 24, 1852, William McLaughlin, d. Nov. 1, 1884. *Isaac*, b. Dec. 1, 1834; *John*, b. June 1, 1836, m. Nov. 1, 1880, Nellie Van, d. Ch. Fernan Van, and John Arthur. *Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 1, 1838, m. June 2, 1881, Nellie G. Bern. *John H.*, b. Nov. 1, 1839; *Anna E.*, b. Feb. 12, 1862, m. June 3, 1881, Denis W. Bern. *Mary J. H. Bern*, b. Nov. 17, 1863, m. Nov. 17, 1887, Oscar Needham. *Maria A.*, b. Oct. 12, 1835; *William H.*, b. Feb. 3, 1836, m. 1854; *John*, b. Jan. 29, 1837; *John A.*, b. Feb. 23, 1838; *John*, b. Nov. 24, 1874.

**GLEASON, Jonas**, was a native proprietor of the Van Hook Mill. He m. Fanny W. Smith, who d. April, 1793; m. 2d, Abigail Farrington, who d. Sept. 1815. He d. Feb. 1818. (See Ch. 7.)

The founder of the present Gleason family was Lewis Putnam. He was a representative of the fourth generation in the country. The first is not known, the second was Ephraim, and the third John Augustus, b. at Pomfret, Conn. June 24, 1777.

**John Augustus**, m. May 12, 1799, Elizabeth Waldo, dau. of Susan Waldo and Moul, dau. of Gen. Israel Putnam (1700-1870). He d. July 11, 1842; she d. July 14, 1841. Ch. *John Z. Augustus*, b. at Pomfret, Conn. Feb. 28, 1801; *Charles Z.*, b. Feb. 5, 1804, m. Dan C. Clark of Arlington, Mass. 1827; *John*, b. Aug. 15, 1805, m. William Webber, of Arlington, Aug. 22, 1806; *David C. Clark* of Arlington.

**Lewis Putnam**, m. Mar. 3, 1820, Sophronia Putler, who d. 1860, 1877; m. 2d, Oct. 2, 1827, Lucy Butler, who d. Oct. 3, 1849; m. 3d, Oct. 2, 1847, Susan Davis. He d.

Jan. 22, 1885. Ch. *Caroline*, b. and d. 1827. **John Henry Augustus**, b. Jan. 6, 1820. **Charles Edwin**, b. April 18, 1830. *Caroline Maria*, b. June 16, 1832, d. Jan. 27, 1833. *Elizabeth Frances* and **John Francis**, b. owns, b. May 23, 1835; Elizabeth m. Marcus B. Webber. *John Putnam*, and *Alfred Walcott*, d. young. *Isaac Putnam*, b. June 1, 1836, d. July 27, 1872. *Laura Caroline*, d. young.

Lewis Putnam Gleason<sup>2</sup> early learned the trade of a shoemaker. At the age of twenty-one years he set out from his home on foot, carrying his possessions with him, intending to walk to the State of Maine to pay a visit to his Grandmother Waldo. On reaching Bedford he found employment at his trade, and entered the service of Benjamin Simonds, an extensive shoe manufacturer. In this brave and resolute young man family history seems to repeat itself. He started from the same point and followed the same route, as far as Concord, that his great-grandfather, Israel Putnam, had travelled forty-six years before, when his military spirit, aroused by the news of the attack by the British at Lexington and Concord, led him to mount his horse and gallop to the relief of the Provincials. The manner in which this young man grappled with the stern realities of life was butting a descendant of that gallant general and leader in the Continental army. He followed the business of a shoemaker until his death. A window to his memory is seen in the meeting-house where he worshipped.

**Henry Augustus**, son of Lewis P., shoemaker, deacon of Wolcott Church and later of Bedford church, m. Mar. 11, 1832, Sarah A. Webber. She d. Dec. 23, 1876. Ch. **John H. Augustus**, b. Mar. 25, 1833, m. June 3, 1885, Mary Isabel Wood of Worcester, have Jennie Frances, b. Dec. 7, 1880, Waldo Wood, b. June 24, 1880. *Alfred H. Augustus*, b. Nov. 3, 1836, m. Oct. 16, 1887, Nelly G. Bonney. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Jan. 25, 1837, m. June 1, 1881, Edward G. Pierce. *Harriet Teresa*, b. Sept. 15, 1861. *Harry Walcott*, b. Jan. 20, 1866, m. Sept. 25, 1886, Lida M. Titus, ch. Harold A. b. June 25, 1887, and Raymond C. b. July 6, 1891. *Thomas P.*, b. Jan. 1, 1871.

**Charles Edwin**, son of Lewis P., deacon of Bedford church, m. Apr. 12, 1861, Caroline F. Munroe. Ch. *Charles Maria*, b. April 22, 1861, m. Dec. 15, 1886, Mary E. Wittington of Medford, have Marie Wittington, b. July 3, 1891. *John Augustus*, b. Sept. 11, 1863. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 1, 1867. *Caroline*, b. Feb. 17, 1880.

**John Francis**, son of Lewis P., m. Sept. 18, 1861, Olive M. Jennings. Ch. *John Putnam*, b. May 3, 1866.

John Francis Gleason followed the business of a shoemaker when young. The early manifested a literary taste, which was gratified as fast as personal effort would admit. He taught school during his preparation for Amherst College, where he took a partial course. He left college, and entered the Union army; was later employed in the Treasury department at Washington, in which city he pursued the study of theology. He was settled as pastor at Williamsburg, Mass. It was during his pastorate in that town that the Mill River disaster occurred, in which one hundred and twenty of his parish were lost, and he with his family had a narrow escape. He was later pastor at North, Conn., and New Britain, Mass.

**GOODWIN, Uriah**, (a generation uncertain), m. Mary Cummings. Ch. *John Z. Goodwin*, b. 1789. *Mary*, b. June 20, 1801, m. John B. Wilson. *Frederick*, b. Aug. 3, 1797, s. d. 20, b. Aug. 18, 1799, m. Daniel Butters, d. Sept. 20,

1848. *Thomas*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 5, 1798, d. Feb. 23, 1852. *Sally*, b. June 7, 1800, d. Feb. 25, 1845. *Anna*, b. Dec. 10, 1803, m. Benjamin Russell. *Stephen*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 17, 1806, d. July 1, 1868.

**Uriah**,<sup>2</sup> m. April 1, 1813, Nancy Hood of Amherst, N.H. He d. Mar. 10, 1850; she d. Mar. 11, 1860. Ch. *William*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 7, 1814. *Henry*,<sup>3</sup> b. Jan. 19, 1816. *Thomas*,<sup>3</sup> b. June 30, 1818. *Joseph H.*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 6, 1820.

**William**,<sup>1</sup> m. May 20, 1830, Eliza J. Cutler of Burlington. He d. July 29, 1872. Ch. *William E.*,<sup>2</sup> d. in infancy. *Willa m.*,<sup>2</sup> d. in infancy. *Anna F.*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1840. *William W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1840. *Herbert A.*,<sup>2</sup> d. young.

**Henry**,<sup>1</sup> m. Sept. 20, 1838, Sarah E. Lane. He d. Dec. 27, 1883; she d. Dec. 2, 1890. Ch. *Henry Oliver*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 25, 1839. *Frank W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 4, 1841, m. Dec. 26, 1868, Sarah E. Roberts, who d. April 24, 1890. He is a merchant in New York City, and a generous friend of his native town. *Charles W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 4, 1843. (See Gen. History, p. 70.) *Joseph A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 31, 1845. *George E.*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 13, 1847. *Katherine F.*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 28, 1857.

**Joseph H.**,<sup>1</sup> m. June 2, 1842, Adaline D. M. Gragg, who d. June 20, 1844; m. 2d, Oct. 5, 1845, Catherine A. Lane.<sup>2</sup> Ch. 2 infant sons. *Ann Catherine*,<sup>2</sup> b. and d. 1846. *Mary Adaline*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 21, 1851, m. Charles Lowe. *Joseph Franklin*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Anna Josephine*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 20, 1855, m. Daniel E. Haynes. *Henry Ellsworth*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 27, 1866, d. Feb. 2, 1870.

**Henry Oliver**,<sup>1</sup> m. July 5, 1860, Harriet Paine. Ch. *Charles H.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 18, 1861, d. Oct. 20, 1881. *Herbert W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 17, 1866, m. June 1, 1887, Carrie A. M. Carter, have Charles H. W.<sup>3</sup> b. Dec. 11, 1888. *George W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 2, 1869, m. Nov. 12, 1880, Belle C. Foss, have Guy L.<sup>3</sup> b. Dec. 18, 1890.

**Joseph A.**,<sup>1</sup> m. 1870, Emma F. Ashby. Ch. *George A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 4, 1878. *Frank A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 31, 1882.

**George E.**,<sup>1</sup> m. Aug. 1874, Mary Richardson of Burlington, who d. Dec. 9, 1889; m. 2d, Feb. 12, 1891, Mrs. Melvina M. Shedd. Ch. *Chester E.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 18, 1877. *Frank Howard A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 25, 1880. *Dwight W.*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 21, 1882.

**GRAGG.** The family appears early in Groton, and later in Boston, from which city they came to Bedford.

**Oliver** occupied the Joseph Hartwell farm for a while. Had 2 ch. settled here, *Charles O.* and *Josiah Q.*

**Charles O.**, b. Sept. 11, 1799, m. Nov. 15, 1821, Eliot Reed. He d. June 4, 1874; she d. Mar. 26, 1879. Ch. *Caroline E.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 25, 1822, m. Isaac Blanchard; m. 2d, George Baker, d. June 25, 1881. *Lucy A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 20, 1824, m. Silas Hollis, d. June 8, 1847. *Charles, Jr.* d. an infant. *Charles C.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 2, 1827, m. Nov. 1, 1854, Sarah A. Hartwell of Littleton. *Sarah Alice*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 22, 1828, m. Albert T. Bacon. *Helen M.*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 29, 1831, m. Amos Hill. *Emily C.*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 31, 1833, m. William Brimblecom; m. 2d, — Moseley. *William H.* and *Mary Josephine*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Mary Josephine*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 29, 1842, m. Charles Moseley, d. Dec. 25, 1873. *Harriet A.*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1845, m. Edward Gerry, d. Oct. 17, 1880. *Edward P.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 10, 1847, d. Feb. 11, 1868.

**Josiah Q.**, depot master at Bedford for several years, m. Mary Morris of Boston.

**Jacob**, of Groton, later of Boston, settled in this town. He d. 1845; 1st wife died in Boston. He m. 2d, Deborah Shipley of Groton. Ch. *Sally*, m. — Harris. *Thurcut*, m. Richard Blinn; m. 2d, Oliver W. Lane. *Mary A.* m.

David Townsend. *John*, *Louisa*, m. Justus P. Hastings. *Frank*, *William*. *Adaline*, m. Joseph H. Goodwin.

**HARTFORD, Dudley**, son of Daniel and Harriet (Brown), b. in Billerica, 1840, m. Emma Woodward, settled in Bedford, June, 1879; florist, selectman and assessor in 1891.

**HARTWELL** — sometimes spelled **HEARTWELL**. — The crest of the family arms shows the hart or deer drinking at a well, indicating that the more popular spelling of the name may be correct.

**William**,<sup>1</sup> the founder of the family in New England, came to this country about 1636, and, as appears, directly to Concord. It is uncertain whether he was one of the little company of pioneers who followed Rev. Peter Bulkley through the wilderness to Musketaquid (Concord), in the fall of 1635; but it is certain that he was of the company in 1636, as he received nine acres in the first allotment of land, on which to erect a dwelling. It was located about one mile eastward from the public square of Concord. Mr. Hartwell is supposed to have been twenty-three years old when he came to this country, and was made a freeman of the colony in 1642. He appears in 1653 as a petitioner for the town of Chelmsford, and was an important and useful man in every respect. He was without doubt accompanied by a young wife in his pioneer work, and their children were probably all born in Concord.

There is a difference of opinion in writers of the Hartwell family as to the name of the wife of William,<sup>1</sup> and it has been recorded that the wife of his youth died, and that he had a second wife, but we think the best evidence leads to the conclusion that he had but one, and that her name was Jazan. The uncommon name being incorrectly spelled and poorly written was taken for Jessie, and later for Susan, which may reasonably explain the confusion. William<sup>1</sup> provides for his wife Jazan in his will probated in 1690. He died March 12 of that year. She died Aug. 5, 1695. The place of their burial is uncertain, but probably on the Old Burial Hill.

There is some difference of opinion as to the number of children born to William<sup>1</sup>. He remembers by his will daughters Sarah and Mary and sons John and Samuel. All agree that there was a Martha, who must have died before her father; and some authorities assign to his family William, Jonathan, and Nathaniel, but of such we find no convincing record.

The almost universal custom of perpetuating the Christian name of the father through the first son, and of the mother through the first daughter, inclines us to the belief that there was a William who died young. We find no proof of the mother's name having been given to any member of the family.

It is uncertain how early the founder of the Hartwell family located in the territory that became Bedford, if he did at all. In 1666, when the selectmen of Concord undertook to adjust the question of land titles, Mr. Hartwell appears as the owner of two hundred and forty-one or two hundred and forty-seven acres, in nineteen separately described lots. He was one of the overseers of the "East Quarter" about 1650. It is certain that his land extended from the first highway, "Virginia Road," northward; and that a "trodden path," later a public way, led to the Hartwell residences, and that his sons located at what is now known as McGovern's and Hosmer's. (See Homesteads.)



The known ch. of William<sup>1</sup> and Jazan Hartwell are **h John**,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 23, 1649-1. **h Samuel**,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 26, 1645. *Maria*, b. April 23, 1649. *Mary*, b. —, m. Jonathan Hull of Billerica, d. Feb. 1664-5. *Sarah*, b. —, m. Benjamin Parker, d. July 18, 1674.

**John**,<sup>2</sup> son of William,<sup>1</sup> m. June 1, 1664, Priscilla Wright, who d. Mar. 3, 1686-1, m. 2d, Aug. 23, 1682, Elizabeth (her sister). He d. Jan. 12, 1702-3; she d. Dec. 16, 1704. Ch. *Ebenezer*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 23, 1666-7, m. Sarah Smedley. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. April 15, 1666, m. Sarah Shepard. *Samuel*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 9, 1673, d. Dec. 31, 1694. *Sarah*,<sup>3</sup> b. April 12, 1677, m. Ebenezer Linsion. *William*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 23, 1678-9. By 2d wife, *Jephtha*,<sup>3</sup> b. Jan. 24, 1686-1, m. Ruhamah Cutler, d. Nov. 3, 1743. *Elizabeth*,<sup>3</sup> b. Dec. 23, 1684. *Edwards*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 23, 1689. *Jonathan*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 15, 1691-2, m. Elizabeth Prown, m. 2d, Sarah Wheeler.

John Hartwell<sup>2</sup> was in King Philip's War, Capt. Thomas Wheeler's company, and marched to the defence of Quabog (Brookfield). The birth of John<sup>2</sup> is the first event of reliable date in the history of the family in America. He died intestate. An agreement between his children was made Mar. 12, 1744-5, signed with mark by Ebenezer, John, Elizabeth, William (by attorney), Joseph, Ebenezer Linsion (husband of Sarah), Edward and Jonathan (by their guardians).

**Samuel**,<sup>2</sup> son of William,<sup>1</sup> m. Oct. 26, 1643, Ruth Wheeler (Ch. *Sanna*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 6, 1666, m. Abigail Stearns of Billerica, d. Nov. 27, 1744. *Mary*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 16, 1667-8. *Ruth*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 17, 1669. **h William**,<sup>3</sup> b. Aug. 16, 1671. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. June 18, 1673, m. Deborah. He d. Nov. 16, 1746; she d. June 14, 1744. (See epitaph.) They gave a silver cup to the church. *Hannah*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 8, 1675, m. Thomas Hosmer, d. Jan. 5, 1755. Thomas Hosmer was son of Thomas and grandson of James, killed at Sudbury fight by the Indians. *Elizabeth*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 23, 1677. *Sarah*,<sup>3</sup> b. July 16, 1679. *Abigail*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 1, 1681. *Rebecca*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 14, 1682-3, m. Simeon Hayward, m. 2d, — Temple. She d. Mar. 29, 1770. *Jane*,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 3, 1684. *Jephtha*,<sup>3</sup> d. young. *Jonathan*,<sup>3</sup>

Samuel Hartwell<sup>2</sup> was in Philip's War, probably in the "hungry march" against the stronghold of Philip. He received land for his services.

**William**,<sup>2</sup> son of Samuel,<sup>1</sup> m. Ruth. He d. Dec. 11, 1742; she d. Feb. 17, 1752. (See epitaph.) Ch. **h William**,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 3, 1713. *Ruth*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 14, 1725, m. Bacon. *Deborah*,<sup>3</sup> b. Mar. 27, 1717, m. Amali. **h Daniel**,<sup>3</sup> b. Mar. 20, 1717 or 1717. Received his father's walking cane by will. **h Timothy**,<sup>3</sup> b. Sept. 13, 1712. **h Stephen**,<sup>3</sup> b. 1716. **h Joseph**,<sup>3</sup> b. Jan. 17, 1722-3.

William Hartwell<sup>2</sup>, son of Samuel,<sup>1</sup> was second layman in the foundation members of the church, 1730, and gave 25 towards starting the town.

William<sup>2</sup> son of William<sup>1</sup> was active in town at the same time. They died within four years of each other. It is difficult to separate their acts. When the vote was taken as to whether candidates for church membership should give in a "confession of their faith to be read in public," the name appears among the affirmative voters and also among the negatives. William Hartwell was chairman of the committee to call the first minister, 1747.

**William**,<sup>3</sup> son of William<sup>2</sup> m. Deborah. He d. April 20, 1740; she d. Dec. 31, 1745. Ch. *Oliver*,<sup>4</sup> b. Jan. 30, 1728, d. Dec. 14, 1743. *Jephtha*,<sup>4</sup> b. Nov. 3, 1730, probably settled in Nt. *William*,<sup>4</sup> d. young. *Jane*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 1, 1739. *Ruth*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 17, 1741, d. Feb. 8, 1772. *Timothy*,<sup>4</sup> d. young.

**Daniel**,<sup>4</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. June 13, 1734, Sarah Wilson. He d. July 10, 1745. Ch. *Daniel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 14, 1735. *Sarah*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 4, 1736. *Sidon*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 26, 1739, m. Aug. 6, 1759, Abigail Davis. *William*,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 1, 1743. *Elizabeth*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 26, 1745.

**Timothy**,<sup>4</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. Mar. 24, 1736-7, Mary Davis. He d. Dec. 27, 1797; she d. April 22, 1805. Ch. 2 d. in infancy, and *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> not recorded, who m. Oct. 7, 1796, Lucy Davis, and had George<sup>6</sup> b. Mar. 17, 1791.

**Stephen**,<sup>4</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. Dec. 31, 1741, Mary Raymond, who d. July 12, 1752; m. 2d, Rebecca, widow of Eleazer Davis. She d. Aug. 17, 1799; he d. July 12, 1792. Ch. *Mary*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 19, 1742, m. May 11, 1762, Francis Wilson, Jr. *Abigail*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 15, 1744, m. Jan. 9, 1766, Jonathan Simonds (?). *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 24, 1746. *Sarah*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 12, 1749, m. Jan. 19, 1775, Sarah Reed. *Rebecca*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 1, 1752. **h Simon**,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 1756.

**Joseph**,<sup>4</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. Dec. 12, 1750, Jennima Patchelder. He d. July 7, 1792; she d. July 13, 1786. Ch. *Joseph*,<sup>5</sup> d. young. *Jennima*,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 6, 1753, m. Ebenezer Cummings of Woburn. *John*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 18, 1755, m. April 17, 1787, Elizabeth Moore, lived in Littleton, d. Mar. 17, 1827. Their son, Dea. John, possessed a remarkable talent for music. He played the base viol forty years in Littleton church. His daughter, Sarah A. m. Charles C. Gragg of Bedford. *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 1, 1757, d. Feb. 13, 1788. *Hannah*,<sup>5</sup> b. July 9, 1759, m. John Skelton of Billerica, d. Sept. 8, 1831. *Rebecca*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 2, 1761, m. June 3, 1788, Joseph Porter, Jr., d. Nov. 25, 1843. **h Joseph**,<sup>5</sup> b. May 9, 1762. *Abigail*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 1, 1764, m. Abraham Whitcomb, d. Aug. 12, 1841. *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 7, 1765. *Mary*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 5, 1766. **h William**,<sup>5</sup> b. June 25, 1770.

**Samuel**,<sup>4</sup> son of Stephen,<sup>3</sup> m. Oct. 26, 1779, Mrs. Desire Brown, dau. of Joseph and Desire (Patchelder). He d. April 2, 1823; she d. Aug. 30, 1824. They had no children. They made bequests to the church, minister and American Education Society, and to relatives. Among the bequests of Desire Hartwell was her tall clock, in the bottom of which was a quantity of silver dollars, to her niece, Hannah Evans.

**Joseph**,<sup>4</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>3</sup> m. July 3, 1804, Elizabeth Mead. He d. Aug. 3, 1842; she d. Aug. 16, 1845. Ch. **h Jephtha**,<sup>5</sup> b. May 20, 1806.

**William**,<sup>4</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>3</sup> m. Oct. 13, 1790, Joanna, dau. of Eleazer Davis, who d. Oct. 30, 1858; m. 2d, April 6, 1809, Mary Lake. He d. May 8, 1860; she d. Jan. 4, 1854. Ch. **h William**,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 12, 1797. **h Amos**,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 3, 1798. **h Benjamin**,<sup>5</sup> b. June 8, 1801. **h Jephtha**,<sup>5</sup> b. April 7, 1802. *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 1, 1804, m. June 10, 1862, Lucy Frost, d. Dec. 6, 1884. He was quiet and industrious, and accumulated wealth. *Mary Joanna*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 17, 1806, m. Nov. 3, 1863, Robert Bartley. **h John**,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 21, 1808. By 2d wife, *Simonds*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 4, 1816. *Zachariah*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 31, 1811, m. Elias Skelton. *George*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 4, 1814, settled in California. Infant son b. and d. 1818. *Elizabeth*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 5, 1820.

Six of the sons of William Hartwell<sup>4</sup> attained the aggregate age of 475 years, and the average of 79 1-6 years. Isaac<sup>6</sup> and Benjamin<sup>6</sup> died within eight days of each other.

\* Densmore's valuable handbook of Hartwell Genealogy assigns this Joseph to William,<sup>4</sup> and thus gains a generation. But the records and timetables prove that he was born in 1724, and we think must have been a son of William.

at the age of 81 and 84, respectively. William<sup>6</sup> and John<sup>6</sup> died within five days of each other, aged 91 and 85, respectively.

**Joseph<sup>6</sup>**, son of Joseph<sup>5</sup>, m. May 5, 1831, Naomi S. Thompson, who d. May 5, 1840; m. 2d, Dec. 30, 1840, Mrs. Elizabeth (Page) Taylor. He d. Feb. 25, 1869. Ch. *Mary A.*, b. April 18, 1832; m. Amos Stearns, d. Jan. 20, 1804. By 2d wife, *Martha J.*, b. Jan. 25, 1842; m. May 25, 1870, George S. Skelton of Carlisle. *Eliza I.*, b. May 28, 1843; m. Sept. 23, 1874, Archibald M. Wilkins. *Havard E.*, b. April 28, 1846; m. George H. Dutton. (See Hartwell Homesteads.)

**William<sup>6</sup>**, son of William<sup>5</sup>, m. Nov. 30, 1820, Ruhannah Webber. She d. Aug. 31, 1870; he d. Jan. 14, 1888. Ch. *William W.*, b. Oct. 2, 1827. *Emma*, b. Nov. 1, 1829. *Lydia E.*, b. Mar. 15, 1835.

The family first settled in Concord, then on a farm in Lexington, now conducted by the son. Joanna attended the normal school at Newton, and was a successful teacher for years.

**Amos<sup>6</sup>**, son of William<sup>5</sup>, m. June 20, 1822, Louisa Hodgman. He d. July 25, 1870; she d. Nov. 17, 1878. Ch. *Sarah Joanna*, b. and d. 1823. *Mary*, b. Mar. 19, 1825; m. Nov. 27, 1845, Josiah B. Gleason. *Sarah*, b. Feb. 24, 1827; m. Jan. 1, 1851, Royal T. Bryant. *Edward Amos<sup>7</sup>*, b. Sept. 23, 1828. *William Green<sup>7</sup>*, b. Dec. 1, 1834. *Alby Louisa*, b. June 15, 1830; a teacher for several years. *Frederick A.*, b. 1837; b. June 13, 1841.

Amos Hartwell, at the age of twenty years, through the death of his father, was left, with his step-mother, in charge of the farm and several young children. He married, 1822, Louisa Hodgman, a woman of great energy and executive ability, and for a while manufactured shoes. They invested their limited means in the Stephen Davis farm, where they reared a large family and accumulated a most respectable fortune. Their six children were given the benefit of academic training in addition to the educational advantages of the town, which by private subscription Mr. Hartwell aided in improving. The three daughters were successful teachers. The closing years of Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell were spent at the John Merriam residence in the village. Mr. Hartwell was a justice of the peace for fourteen years, settled many estates, conducted the affairs of minors, and was prominent in town office. He was representative to the General Court four years. He was deacon of the Church of Christ from 1820 till death, in 1870; was superintendent of the Sabbath school eighteen years, and enjoyed the confidence of the townspeople till death. A window to his memory was placed, by his children, in 1886, in the meeting-house which he aided in building, and where he was a consistent worshipper of God, whom he loved and taught his family to worship.

*Benj<sup>d</sup> F. Hartwell*

son of William<sup>5</sup>, m. Nov. 13, 1828, Lucy Webber, who d. April 20, 1834; m. 2d, Jan. 20, 1835, Mary F. Fitch, who d. May 15, 1871; m. 3d, Nov. 17, 1875, Mrs. Nancy Brooks. He d. Dec. 14, 1881. Ch. *Emily*, b. and d. 1830. *Lucy Ann*, b. and d. 1832. By 2d wife, *Lucretia W. Fitch*, b. Jan. 16, 1837; m. Nov. 25, 1858, Hannibal S. Pond. *Mary Anna*, b. Feb. 21, 1839; m. Jan. 1, 1861, Matthew R. Fletcher.

Benjamin F. Hartwell<sup>6</sup> spent his most active years on the Conyers Farm at South Bedford (see illustration), and

later lived with his second wife, Mary F. Fitch, at her paternal homestead in the centre. He had been a member of the church sixty-seven years, and a useful and honored citizen. Lucy W. (Hartwell) Pond lived at her homestead at South Bedford. She was killed by being thrown from a carriage Oct. 2, 1860. Mary A. (Hartwell) Fletcher lived at Arlington some years, returned to Bedford with her husband in 1884, and located on her maternal acres. (See Homesteads.)

**Joseph<sup>6</sup>**, son of William<sup>5</sup>, m. May 5, 1833, Hannah Hodgman. He d. Aug. 2, 1868; she d. Jan. 23, 1888. Ch. *Nancy*, b. and d. 1834. *Joseph Edwin<sup>7</sup>* and *Hannah Elizabeth*, twins, b. May 13, 1835; *Hannah E.*, m. George H. Smith, d. Mar. 30, 1890. *Charles Henry<sup>7</sup>*, b. Oct. 5, 1836. *Amey Jane*, b. Jan. 3, 1838; m. Charles M. Stratton, d. Jan. 31, 1876. *Ellen Francisca*, b. July 18, 1839; m. Hannibal S. Pond, d. Feb. 15, 1865. *Caroline Augusta*, b. April 9, 1841; m. George W. Livermore. *John Albert<sup>7</sup>*, b. Jan. 9, 1843. *George Alfred<sup>7</sup>*, b. Dec. 7, 1844. *Isaac Newton<sup>7</sup>*, b. Nov. 28, 1846. *Benjamin Franklin<sup>7</sup>*, b. and d. 1848. *Frank<sup>7</sup>*, b. June 28, 1850. *Addie Maria*, d. young.

Joseph Hartwell<sup>6</sup> was a flourishing farmer and teamster, and a man of great endurance.

**John Batchelder<sup>6</sup>**, m. July 14, 1832, Julia Ann Harrington. He d. Jan. 19, 1888; she d. Feb. 21, 1890. Ch. *John Henry<sup>7</sup>*, b. Jan. 10, 1835. *Charles Frederick<sup>7</sup>*, b. Mar. 20, 1844.

John B. Hartwell settled in West Cambridge (Arlington) in 1836, was a carpenter by trade, and built many houses. He was sexton of the Unitarian church for thirty years, and funeral undertaker of the town forty-three years; and was in other public offices, which he faithfully filled.

**Samuel Chandler<sup>6</sup>**, son of William<sup>5</sup>, was an architect and builder in New Orleans, La.; m. Mrs. Eliza Thomas. He d. June 22, 1844. Ch. *Lucy Z.*, b. 1837; m. 1858, John Lockhart. *Charles C.*, b. 1839; m. 1863, Catherine Lacy. He is a plumber and gas-fitter in New Orleans, and a man of wealth and influence. Ch. *Eliza A.*, b. 1865. *Ellen A.*, b. 1867. *Samuel C.*, b. 1869. *Charles A. L.*, b. 1871. *Lawrence S.*, b. 1873.

**Eldridge<sup>6</sup>**, son of William<sup>5</sup>, m. Nov. 1, 1843, Lucy P. Reed. Ch. *Edwin A.*, b. Sept. 12, 1845. *Ellis Louisa*, b. Sept. 11, 1852; d. Nov. 28, 1853.

Eldridge Hartwell<sup>6</sup> and son, Edwin A.<sup>7</sup>, are both house-builders, and located in their native town.

**Edward Amos<sup>7</sup>**, son of Amos<sup>6</sup>, m. Oct. 13, 1860, Almira Chamberlin. Ch. *Walter Chamberlin<sup>8</sup>*, d. young. *Carrie Louise*, b. Aug. 4, 1864; m. Sept. 16, 1890, George M. Ludlow. *Lydia Cornelia*, b. Nov. 29, 1867. *Almira Florence*, b. July 23, 1869. *Addie Gertrude*, b. Oct. 6, 1871. *Mary Belle*, b. May 23, 1875. *Edward Chamberlin<sup>8</sup>*, d. young.

Edward Amos Hartwell went, in 1852, to California, where he spent a year in gluch mining, then three in carpentering; was at Quincy, Ill., in mill business, until 1859; then to New Orleans, La., and later to Chicago, in the manufacture of sash, blinds, and builder's finish. He has accumulated a large fortune. In 1888 he organized his business into a stock company, displaying great munificence in the gratuitous distribution of stock among his old and faithful employees. He has large possessions in the West, and in Florida, at Rockledge, where he conducts an orange plantation and lives during the winter. He is a faithful friend of the church of his youth.

**William Green,**<sup>5</sup> son of Amos,<sup>4</sup> the only male representative of Amos<sup>4</sup> in his native town, where he is a prosperous wood and coal dealer, m. June 11, 1868, Clara A. Smith. Ch. *Edith Smith*, b. Oct. 5, 1872. *Clara Howard*, b. Nov. 25, 1877. *Lilla*, b. Mar. 7, 1880.

**Frederick Alonzo,**<sup>5</sup> son of Amos,<sup>4</sup> m. Nov. 23, 1865, Cynthia A. Nichols. Ch. *Frederick Thos.*, b. Aug. 13, 1868. *Hebe Corbin*, b. Aug. 24, 1871. *Herbert Calvert*, b. Mar. 18, 1873. *William Henry*, b. Sept. 1, 1874. *Edwina May*, b. May 21, 1876. *Robert Andrew*, b. Feb. 25, 1878. *Elizabeth Anne*, b. Sept. 17, 1879.

Frederick A. Hartwell<sup>5</sup> settled in Woburn, where he has conducted the provision business with marked success for many years. He is an honored member and liberal supporter of the Orthodox church.

**Joseph Edwin,**<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>4</sup> m. Dec. 25, 1868, Adelia Babson. Lives in Brighton in winter, at Pigeon Cove in summer.

**Charles Henry,**<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>4</sup> m. June 16, 1874, Emma J. Carr. Ch. *Henry T.*, b. Sept. 13, 1876. *Gertrude A.*, b. April 15, 1880. *Fred.*

Charles H. Hartwell<sup>5</sup> is a successful trader in East Cambridge.

**John Albert,**<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>4</sup> m. June 26, 1874, Helen M. Davis. Ch. *Fred.*

**George Alfred,**<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 1868, Olive M. Fitch. Ch. *George F.*, b. and d. 1868. *Louisa F.*, b. Aug. 18, 1871.

**Isaac Newton,**<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>4</sup> wheelwright at Bedford, m. June 1, 1870, Elizabeth A. Pierce. Ch. *Lizzie Merton*, b. Dec. 3, 1875.

**John Henry,**<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Nov. 21, 1861, Emeline Augusta Stearns. She d. Sept. 10, 1883. Ch. *George H.*, b. Aug. 22, 1864, m. Emma L. Greenard. *Lilla Augusta*, b. Oct. 29, 1866, m. James W. Nickles. *Charles Thos.*, b. Dec. 18, 1868. *Julia Anne*, b. Jan. 14, 1871.

John H. Hartwell<sup>5</sup> is in the undertaking business in Arlington. He has been chief of police and in other town offices.

**Charles Frederick,**<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 26, 1866, Mary Jane L. Galloway, m. 2d, Mar. 29, 1884, Mrs. Augusta Anne Webster. Ch. *Fredrick William*, b. Mar. 26, 1868. *Wm. Chandler*, b. May 2, 1870. *Robert Eugene*, b. Mar. 12, 1872. *Gertrude Louisa*, b. Nov. 14, 1874.

Charles F. Hartwell<sup>5</sup> followed the seas for years, and bore the title of a carpenter.

**Edwin A.,**<sup>5</sup> son of Edmund,<sup>4</sup> m. June 21, 1860, Mary P. Blood. Ch. *Clara L.*, b. Dec. 7, 1871.

For HAYDEN, see General History.

**HAYNES, Daniel E.** son of Daniel and Hannah (Gardner), b. Oct. 1, 1841, May 13, 1848, settled in Bedford in 1871, m. Abigail Goodwin. Ch. *Mary J.*, b. April 2, 1872. *John*, b. July 16, 1876. *Sam.*, b. Mar. 1, 1881.

HAYWARD, an Irish spelling.

**George,** was in mercantile associate with Rev. Peter Buck, and settled at Masketaquid (Concord) in 1835. The first of the Bedford settlers was George, Joseph,<sup>2</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Dec. Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Phil,<sup>2</sup> b. April 2, 1745, m. July 14, 1768, Ann White of Acushnet (died 1841). He d. May 20, 1824, she d. at the age of 90, having been noted for her business capacity.

**Mather,** Isona, son of Paul,<sup>3</sup> the first of the name to settle in Bedford, was from Foxboro, and lived in the first William Page (of W. S. Bedford). He m. Mar. 1, 1811,

Lucy Page, and d. April 18, 1856. She d. April 11, 1847. Ch. *h. Mos.*, b. Dec. 30, 1800. *h. F. ne. et.*, b. Oct. 1, 1802. *h. John White*, b. July 11, 1804. *h. William Page*, b. Dec. 2, 1807. *Lucy Ann*, b. Aug. 8, 1800. *Mather*, b. April 12, 1811. *George W.*, d. young. *Caroline*, b. July 31, 1816, d. June 26, 1839. *Maria*, b. Nov. 1810, m. Bowker, d. July 4, 1858.

Mather Hayward<sup>5</sup> inherited the William Page farm, which he occupied, was often in town office, and prominent in church. He was first lieutenant of the company of militia under Capt. Putnam, and was with the company when ordered to Fort Warren in 1812. He owned the snare drum used on that day.

**Moses,**<sup>5</sup> son of Mather,<sup>4</sup> m. April 30, 1829, Lucretia Bingham. She d. Feb. 26, 1877, he d. April 2, 1891. Ch. *Charlotte Lucretia*, b. June 8, 1830, m. Gen. B. F. Edmunds of Newton. *Anne Maria*, b. Sept. 14, 1831, m. Charles Coverly. *Charles B.*, m. Carrie Stoddard, and lives at Hingham. *Henrietta*, m. Lewis Stoddard. *Lucy*, resides at Boston. Five d. young.

Moses Hayward<sup>5</sup> was crippled in one limb from youth. He was educated at Westford Academy, and followed a mercantile business in Bedford and later in Boston. He was superintendent of Bedford Sabbath School, first clerk of Trin. Cong. society, and in many positions of trust. He was a foundation member of Mt. Vernon Church, Boston.

**Ebenezer,**<sup>5</sup> son of Mather,<sup>4</sup> m. Nov. 1828, Esther Buttrick; m. 2d, May 10, 1833, Ann S. Bingham; m. 3d, Harriet Dresser. He d. July 14, 1877. Ch. *Henry Es.*, *Samuel W.*, *Esther M.*, *Martha A.*, *Ellen M.*, *Caroline E.*, *George B.*, and *Harriet M.*

**John White,**<sup>5</sup> son of Mather,<sup>4</sup> m. April 26, 1827, Lydia H. Lane. He d. 1866; she d. Dec. 25, 1884. Ch. *John Augustus*, b. Mar. 14, 1828, d. Aug. 1828. *Stephen Luns,* b. Oct. 26, 1829. *Harriet Frances*, b. May 12, 1831.

John W. Hayward<sup>5</sup> was often in town and parish office. He was commissioned as captain of Lexington artillery company.

**William Page,**<sup>5</sup> son of Mather,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 17, 1835, Abigail Maynard. Ch. *Amelia B.*, b. April 19, 1836. *William Edward*, b. May 24, 1839, m. Susan Aude. Had 5 ch.

William Page Hayward<sup>5</sup> was a manufacturer of trunks and valises in Lowell and Canada, and later settled in North Cambridge. He was deacon of North Avenue Congregational Church from 1857 to 1867.

**Mather,**<sup>5</sup> son of Mather,<sup>4</sup> m. Ann Holbrook of Boston; m. 2d, Caroline Chappelle of Cambridgeport. Have 2 ch. living.

**HILL.** The Hills were in Billerica very early. Their lands extended into that part of the town that was set off to Bedford in 1724. (See Homesteads.) By intermarriage the Hills of Billerica became early intermingled with the families on the Concord side of Bedford. Ralph was the founder of the family. Jonathan<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 11, 1666, Mary Hartwell, dau. of William<sup>1</sup>. John Hartwell of Bedford m. Dec. 3, 1744, Mary Brackett, widow of Jonathan Hill; William Page of Bedford m. Nov. 8, 1763, Patience Hill, dau. of Ralph; Jonathan Hill m. Jan. 13, 1769, Mary Lang of Bedford; Oliver Pollard m. June 19, 1777, Mary Hill, dau. of Jonathan; Benjamin Lane of Bedford, later of Ashburnham, m. May 26, 1785, Isabel Hill, dau. of Jonathan; Joseph Hill m. Aug. 24, 1744, Lucy Fitch, dau. of Zephaniah of Bedford; Jonathan<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 13, 1768,

Mary Proctor of Bedford. Samuel Butler of Leominster, later of Bedford, m. Nov. 23, 1824, Mary Hill, dau. of Jonathan<sup>5</sup>

**David,**<sup>6</sup> apprenticed to Benj. Simonds to learn the shoe business at the age of 18, m. Dec. 26, 1832, Lydia P. Hatch, who d. Oct. 15, 1851; m. 2d, Dec. 14, 1853, Mary A. Chamberlin, who d. Jan. 18, 1860; m. 3d, May 26, 1861, Mrs. C. A. Farriss. Ch. *Henry D.*<sup>7</sup> b. Nov. 17, 1834. *Alma I.*<sup>7</sup> b. May 8, 1838, m. May 2, 1858, George A. Pollard of Leominster. Had 4 ch. *Mary E.* b. July 27, 1847, m. Dec. 24, 1867, Wallace A. Rowell. Had 1 son, Byron H. d. Sept. 10, 1860.

**Josiah,**<sup>6</sup> lived on Bedford homestead, m. June 8, 1789, Susanna Davis, dau. of Daniel<sup>5</sup> of Bedford. She d. Feb. 15, 1818 (see epitaph); he d. Mar. 15, 1840. Ch. *Josiah,*<sup>7</sup> b. July 11, 1791, was a clergyman at Methuen in 1832, and later at Lynnfield. *Joseph,*<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 23, 1793, m. Susan Bacon of Bedford, d. Mar. 4, 1831. *Elijah Bacon,*<sup>7</sup> b. April 24, 1795, m. Lucy Johnson, d. Mar. 29, 1865. *Susannah,* b. April 30, 1798, m. Dea. Joel Fitch. Two d. young. *Artamus,*<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 5, 1809, m. Petersey Roby; m. 2d, Sophia Wilkins. Lived in Billerica and Carlisle. *h Constantine,*<sup>7</sup> b. May 18, 1812.

**Constantine,**<sup>6</sup> son of Josiah<sup>5</sup> lived on Bedford homestead, m. Nov. 7, 1834, Martha Pratt of Dunstable, who d. Jan. 27, 1850; m. 2d, Mrs. Sarah (Whitford) Webber, who d. May 30, 1853; m. 3d, Lucy Davis Richardson. He d. Aug. 25, 1872. Ch. *Martha Maria,* b. Oct. 28, 1835, m. Samuel Sage of Bedford. *Mary Ellen,* b. Nov. 13, 1837, m. John DeCamp of Cincinnati. *John Henry,*<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 19, 1839, m. Jennie Bulmer of New Jersey. *William Warren,*<sup>7</sup> b. July 3, 1844. *George Worth,* b. Feb. 10, 1846, m. Ann M. Brown. *Sarah Adelaide,* b. Sept. 6, 1851, m. Richard R. Anderson. *Josiah Constantine,* d. an infant.

**Amos W.**<sup>7</sup> son of Brewer<sup>6</sup> and Celinda Carpenter, b. Oct. 18, 1820, m. 1848, Helen M. dau. of Charles O. Gragg. Ch. *Charles Eugene,*<sup>8</sup> b. May 22, 1849, m. 1880, Celia Watkins of Elgin, Ill. *Helen A.* b. Oct. 11, 1851, m. 1872, Fred C. Potter of Waltham, d. 1880. *William H.*<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 5, 1857, m. 1878, Meda Hayes of Waltham. *h Ralph W.*<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 22, 1859, m. 1885, Emma Godber of Waltham. Ch. *Walter J.*<sup>9</sup> b. Mar. 7, 1886. *Ralph C.*<sup>9</sup> b. Mar. 15, 1888.

**John Brewer,**<sup>7</sup> son of Brewer<sup>6</sup> and Celinda Carpenter, b. Oct. 29, 1822, m. Nov. 27, 1850, Mary I. dau. of George Dutton and Lydia (Jaquith). Ch. *Fred Bertrand,*<sup>8</sup> b. July 7, 1852, m. Fannie Falsen. *Joseph Augustine,*<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 19, 1854, m. Emma Cades. *Lizzie Estelle,* b. Sept. 5, 1861, m. Langdon B. Pearson.

**ROAR, Edmund,** son of Leonard of Lincoln, m. Nov. 29, 1827, Betsey Wright. He d. Mar. 7, 1857; she d. June 5, 1889. Ch. *Caroline P.* b. Sept. 9, 1830, m. Daniel S. Pratt of Prattleboro, Vt. *Alfred H.* b. July 27, 1832, m. Mary Bemis. Had 4 ch. *Edmund* and *Edward,* twins, b. July 29, 1835; Edmund m. Salome Emerson; Edward m. Jennie Fessenden, and, 2d, Emma Kratzer. *George E.* m. Lizzie Gray. *Joseph H.* a successful merchant in New York City, m. Ada Van Iderstein. *Mary Frances,* m. Benjamin F. Parker. She, with son Stanley, perished in the Old Colony Railroad accident at Quincy, August, 1890. *Maria A.* b. Jan. 1846, m. J. Franklin Mansfield. *Charles E.* b. Oct. 1852, m. April 20, 1876, Emma P. Talbot. Have 2 ch. The sons have legally taken the maiden name of mother, Wright.

**HODGDON, Irving L.,** son of Joseph M. and Catherine A. Smith, b. in Lowell Dec. 3, 1851, settled in Bedford 1875, m. Viola A. Smith. Selectman and assessor 1891.

**Harrison D.,** son of Joseph M. and Catherine A. Smith, b. in Lowell June 15, 1863, m. Fannie A. Hill. Ch. Mabel G. b. April 18, 1883. Joseph S. b. Mar. 4, 1885.

**HOSMER, James,**<sup>1</sup> b. 1607, d. Feb. 7, 1685 in Concord. He was a clothier, of Hawkhurst, Kent Co., Eng., and came in ship "Elizabeth" from London in 1635, with his wife, two daughters, and two maid servants; settled in Concord, Sept. 1635; was freeman May 17, 1637. Had 8 ch.

**Stephen,**<sup>2</sup> son of James by his 3d wife, Alice or Ellen, b. Nov. 27, 1642, freeman in 1690, m. Abigail Wood, d. Dec. 15, 1714.

**John,**<sup>3</sup> son of Stephen and Abigail, b. Aug. 31, 1671, m. Mary Billings, d. 1751.

**John,**<sup>4</sup> son of John and Mary, b. July 24, 1700, m. Aug. 26, 1724, Mehitable Parker, d. Dec. 14, 1733.

**John,**<sup>5</sup> son of John<sup>4</sup> b. May 17, 1725, m. Martha Webber of Medford, d. in Medford, Nov. 17, 1771. Ch. *Martha,* b. Jan. 21, 1756. *Martha,* 2d, b. Oct. 11, 1762. *Benjamin,*<sup>6</sup> b. June 30, 1766, a physician in Gilsom, N.H.

**John,**<sup>6</sup> b. May 10, 1758, in Medford. Removed to Lexington, where he was a member of Capt. Parker's company at the Battle of Lexington. He afterwards fought at White Plains, Oct. 28, 1776; at Ticonderoga, July 5, 1777; and at Stillwater, Sept. 19 and Oct. 7, 1777. He was educated in preparation for Harvard College, but at the death of his benefactress, Mmc. Ryall, he became a shoemaker. He m. Jan. 21, 1781, Anna Fosgate of Bolton. He removed from Lexington to Shrewsbury, and thence, in about 1790, to Bedford, where he lived and brought up his large family. He d. in New Ipswich, N.H., Sept. 17, 1830. Ch. *h Christopher Page,*<sup>7</sup> b. May 1, 1782. *John,*<sup>7</sup> b. June 26, 1784. *h Castalia,*<sup>7</sup> b. April 6, 1786. *Martha,* b. Feb. 15, 1788. *Anna,* b. Oct. 22, 1789. *Julia,* b. June 3, 1791. *Clarissa,* b. Sept. 6, 1792. *Benjamin,*<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 20, 1794. *h Leander,*<sup>7</sup> b. April 5, 1796. *h Gustavus,*<sup>7</sup> b. Nov. 26, 1798.

**Christopher Page,**<sup>7</sup> m. Feb. 29, 1812, Nancy Thompson of Woburn, d. Sept. 19, 1834. Had 10 ch. *Sally Bond,* b. Mar. 27, 1820, m. Jan. 1, 1843, John Clark. Removed to Amherst, where she now lives. *Oren Stanley,*<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 16, 1829, m. Aug. 1, 1860, Charlotte A. Emery of Tuftonboro, N.H. Had 3 ch.

**Castalia,**<sup>7</sup> shoe manufacturer in Bedford, lieutenant in war of 1812, m. Mrs. Ruth (Clarke) Pool of Braintree. Ch. *h Ebenezer Clark,*<sup>8</sup> b. July 4, 1806. *Anna Fosgate,* b. Mar. 28, 1808. *Elias Pool,*<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 11, 1810. *Sarah,* b. Dec. 21, 1811. *Lucinda,* b. May 12, 1814. *Laura,* b. May 19, 1817. *Castalia,*<sup>8</sup> b. May 16, 1819. *Charles,*<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 6, 1820. *Granville,*<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 25, 1822.

**Leander,**<sup>7</sup> farmer and shoemaker, m. Sophronia Wilson of Billerica, d. Oct. 6, 1888. Ch. *h Henry,*<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 18, 1818. *Angelina,* b. April 1, 1820, m. Rev. John H. Carr, was a missionary in Indian Territory, d. Sept. 28, 1864. *Ann Maria,* b. Sept. 2, 1821, m. Nathaniel P. Watts. *h Thomas Baldwin,*<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 27, 1822. *Caroline Matilda,* b. Jan. 6, 1825, m. Edward Foster. *Martha Eliza,* b. April 24, 1827, m. Isaac L. Watts. *h William Augustus,*<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 16, 1829. *Sophronia,* b. Mar. 28, 1833, d. young. *Jerome,*<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 10, 1834. *Charles Edward,*<sup>8</sup> b. May 25, 1837.

**Gustavus,**<sup>7</sup> m. Julia Wilson of Westford, d. Nov. 24,

1828. Ch. *George*,<sup>7</sup> b. July 6, 1822, wholesale boot and shoe dealer in Boston. *Edison*,<sup>7</sup> b. about 1826. *Melina*.

**Ebenezer Clark**,<sup>7</sup> b. July 4, 1800, farmer, m. Mary Ann Muzzey of Lexington, d. Sept. 9, 1886. Ch. *Ebenezer Battelle*,<sup>7</sup> b. May 3, 1839. *Harriet Battelle*, b. Oct. 13, 1835, m. James Clark. *Ellen Barker*,<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 1845, m. Robert Rushton. *Charlie Muzzey*,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 17, 1840. *John Muzzey*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 14, 1853.

**Henry**,<sup>7</sup> son of Leander,<sup>7</sup> m. Catherine G. Cook of Salem. He d. in Civil War, q.v. Ch. *Kinda*,<sup>7</sup> *Pitson*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1850. *Helen Loggatt*,<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 1852.

**Thomas Baldwin**,<sup>7</sup> son of Leander,<sup>7</sup> dentist in Boston and Bedford, justice of the peace, has been in town office, m. July 29, 1849, Hannah Heald of Carlisle. *Charlotte Maria*, b. June 20, 1851. *William Augustus*,<sup>7</sup> b. June 12, 1856. *Ernest Howard*,<sup>7</sup> b. Dec. 12, 1862, grad. Harvard College, 1886, studied divinity and medicine.

**William Augustus**,<sup>7</sup> son of Leander,<sup>7</sup> mantle maker, m. Sarah Hewes of Roxbury, d. Jan. 6, 1850. Ch. *Sophronima*, b. May 1851. *Ida*.

**Charles Edward**,<sup>7</sup> son of Leander,<sup>7</sup> of Brown University (1861) and Harvard Medical School (1867), m. Sarah Breck of Brighton. He has been a physician in Waltham, Boston, and Billerica, and principal of a young ladies' boarding school in Boston. At Billerica he was chairman of school committee, president Bennett Library, and choir-master in First Church. He was in the Civil War, q.v. Had 5 ch.

**William Augustus**,<sup>7</sup> son of Thomas B., watchmaker in Waltham, studied at Lawrence Academy, Groton, alderman in Waltham (1891 and 1894), m. Fannie S. Tarbell of Hartford, Vt.

**HUGHES, John**, m. Alice Taylor. She m. 2d, William Reed, d. Feb. 1887. Ch. *William B.*, b. Oct. 12, 1848. *Sarah Jane*, b. and d. 1857. *Samuel T.*, b. 1852, d. 1891.

**William B.**, m. July 1, 1872, Lucy Alice Puffer. Ch. *Samuel T.*, b. April 21, 1874. *Alice Reed*, b. Dec. 13, 1877. *Eunice F.*, b. Jan. 1, 1888.

**HIRD, Thomas**, tavern keeper of Bedford, m. Dec. 1811, Mary W. Board. Ch. *Mary L.*, b. July 18, 1815, m. Sept. 30, 1851, Charles Jones of Boston.

**JACKSON, Joshua**, b. in Middleboro, Mass., 1737, d. 1837. He served seven years in the Revolution, and returned home wearing a knapsack that contained nine bullet-holes. Ch. *h. b.*,<sup>7</sup> and *h. f. b.*,<sup>7</sup>

**Josiah**, b. at Newton, Mass., removed to Paris, Me., m. Deborah Churchill. He d. at the age of 70 years, and she at 69 years. Ch. *Hannah*,<sup>7</sup> *Clara*,<sup>7</sup> *h. f. b.*,<sup>7</sup> *George*,<sup>7</sup> and *Charles*.

**Joshua**, b. 1821, came to Bedford in 1842, m. 1845, Mary Loring. Ch. *Mary S.*, b. April 1849, m. 1868, Warren Howland of Northfield, Vt., d. 1887. *Josiah A.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1848, d. 1871. *Hebe*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1851. *h. William A.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1855. *Charles*,<sup>7</sup> b. and d. 1857. *Alice T.*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1859, m. Quincy S. Cole.

**George H.**,<sup>7</sup> a provision dealer in Lexington, m. 1873, Flora F. Wentworth of Lexington. She d. July 21, 1883. Ch. *George*,<sup>7</sup> *Oliver William A.*,<sup>7</sup> and *Mary E.*

**William A.**,<sup>7</sup> merchant in Faneuil Hall Market, Boston, m. 1878, Ida M. Garmon of East Lexington. She d. 1885. Ch. *William Loring*,<sup>7</sup> b. 1885.

**JOHNSON, Obadiah Perry**, son of Asa and Sarah Perry, b. at Kingle, N.H., 1811, m. Jan. 3, 1833, Abigail M. Reed, who was b. at Ashby, Feb. 5, 1813. Ch. *Edison*

*A. m.* Mary E. Jones of Maine. Have Herbert L. and Edgar N. *Alfred Perry*, grad. Harvard College (1861) and Andover Seminary (1866), was in the Union army and clergyman in the West, m. Terrie E. Shively of Indiana. Have Blanche, Edward, and Terrie. *Marcus R.* was in Civil War, q.v., m. Nellie L. Wilson of Massachusetts. Have Mabel Arthur, Mary Elsie, and George. *Abbie M.*, m. Edward Gooding of Massachusetts. Have Ethel R., m. J. Forest Bell, M.D., of Illinois.

This Johnson family, now extinct in this town, was for many years prominent, helpful, and highly respected.

**JONES, Timothy**,<sup>7</sup> son of John<sup>4</sup> and Abigail, b. May 1, 1748, m. Rebecca Putnam. His paternal ancestors in four generations were John. (See military history and epitaphs.)

**Ephraim**, from Boston, m. Eliza Brown of Lincoln, and settled on a portion of the David Reed farm. He d. Nov. 27, 1861; she d. June 7, 1885, and left a legacy to the church. A tablet to her memory is seen in the chapel. Ch. *Charles H.* a successful merchant in Natick, m. Anna Lowe. Have 5 ch.

**Elbridge**, from Merrimack, N.H., m. 1836, Abigail Stickney of Tewksbury. He served nine months in the Union army (see Chap. XXX), and was superintendent of Milton poor farm, where he d. Nov. 18, 1868. Ch. *Francis*, b. Oct. 4, 1837.

**KELLEY, Martin**, settled in 1873 on the farm owned by Timothy Page at the time of the Revolution. (See Homesteads.) He m. 1867, Ellen Murry. Ch. *John*, b. Oct. 10, 1868. *William*, b. Sept. 20, 1870. *Edward P.*, b. Sept. 20, 1871. *Thomas*, b. Aug. 15, 1874. *Mary*, b. Feb. 20, 1876, d. June 20, 1888. *Willie*, b. May 15, 1877. *Maggie*, b. July 5, 1878, d. July 12, 1888. *Annie*, b. April 10, 1880. *Morton J.*, b. and d. Oct. 1881. *Martin J.*, b. Oct. 6, 1882. *Agnes*, b. Oct. 20, 1883.

**KENRICK, Alexander Wellington**, son of Samuel and Martha S. Smith, b. at Charlestown, Sept. 9, 1814, m. Mar. 14, 1838, Lucy L. Holbrook of the eighth generation. Ch. *Hennrich A.*, b. Feb. 7, 1841, m. George H. Russell. *Frank W.*,<sup>7</sup> b. July 23, 1844, d. Feb. 26, 1887. *Anthony H.*, b. Jan. 21, 1847. *Frank Peter*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 21, 1847. *George W.*,<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 8, 1849. *Bertram H.*,<sup>7</sup> b. June 23, 1852. *Mercy Maria*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 18, 1850, d. Oct. 22, 1886. *Richard Fay*,<sup>7</sup> d. young. *Lee Fay*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 2, 1865.

**LANE**. "The Lane family is very ancient. One went over to England with William the Conqueror in 1066."

**Job Lane**, or **Laine**, son of James of Hertfordshire, Eng., came to America in 1635, was one of the first settlers of Billerica, and his descendants formed one of the most numerous and influential families in that town and Bedford.

Various genealogical notices of the family have appeared before the public, but disagreeing in details of family history.

Job Lane<sup>1</sup> was interested in the settlement of Rehoboth (Seconk), on the 3d of July, 1634, where he drew a house-lot, No. 28. His estate was then valued at £50.

If this Job was the one of Bedford's early interests, he soon returned to England; for in 1647 "he was appointed by his kinsman, Thomas Howell of Marshfield, as executor of his will."

He returned about 1650, and resided in Malden in New

England. If this Job was not the head of the Bedford family, he may have been the one by that Christian name who began life here later, and will be considered as the head of the second Job Lane family, which seems to have been distinct from the one that has been represented here during the entire history of the town.

Job Lane<sup>1</sup> was a master carpenter and housewright, and pursued that business extensively.

There were two others of the name of Lane early in this country, William and James. William came over in 1636, with William Reed and others, in what is known as the second immigration. James was brother of Job, as is shown by the following, under date of May 19, 1600: "I James Lane of Malden Middlesex County, Turner, have constituted my well beloved brother Job Lane, of same Malden, my true and lawful attorney in my name and stead to act," &c. They were sons of James of England. Job Lane was made freeman in 1656, built the first meeting house in Malden in 1658, and contracted for the building of a bridge over Concord River, to be completed, "with abutments at each end suitable for the passing over with carts," before the close of the year 1659.

**Job**,<sup>1</sup> b. 1620, m. Sarah, who d. May, 1658; m. 2d, July, 1660, Hannah, dau. of Rev. John Rayner, pastor of the church at Dover. He d. Aug. 23, 1697; she d. April 30, 1704. Ch. *Sarah*, m. April 23, 1673, Samuel Fitch, d. Oct. 2, 1679. *Elizabeth*, b. 1656, m. Robert Avery. *Rebecca*, b. 1658, bap. at Dorchester, Aug. 4, 1658 (not mentioned in her father's will), d. 1659. By 2d wife, **John**,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 1661, bap. in Dorchester "when about one-quarter of a year old, by reason of their living so remote." *Anna*, d. an infant. *Anna*, m. James Foster of Dorchester, d. 5 days before her husband, Sept. 29, 1732, aged 67. *Jemima*, b. Aug. 19, 1666, m. Matthew Whipple of Ipswich. *Dorothy*, b. July 24, 1666, m. Nov. 24, 1693, Edward Sprague (his birth is the first of the family recorded in Billerica). *Mary*, b. 1674, m. William Avery of Dedham.

Job Lane<sup>1</sup> removed to Billerica, and settled on the Gov. Winthrop farm, which he bought of Fitz John, son of the governor. The deed, dated Aug. 2, 1664, conveys twelve hundred and sixty acres, being the same granted to the eminent governor by the Colonial Court. (See Illustration.) Job Lane<sup>1</sup> paid for the farm £235, "current money," by building a house for Fitz John Winthrop at New London, Conn. He remained on the farm until the marriage of his son, John,<sup>2</sup> after which he returned to his Malden estate.

The Winthrop farm was found, by survey previous to the division among the heirs of Job,<sup>1</sup> to contain fifteen hundred acres. It was but a small part of his estate. The inventory was as follows: Estate in Billerica, £800; homestead in Malden, £225; tenements in Malden, £913; personal estate, £188 11 s. 6d. — total, £2,126 11 s. 6d.

In addition to the above, there was a large estate in England from which he received annual income. The English estate, in part, came by the second wife of Job.<sup>1</sup> It was inherited by the Rayner family, from a brother, Bowse, who was slain in the war of the revolution in the Parliament party, under Lord Fairfax, in a battle near Leeds, 1643. (See English Right.)

Job's house in Billerica was one of the four block houses ordered to be built by the General Court between Concord and Chelmsford, in 1755, during Philip's war.

Job Lane<sup>1</sup> represented the town in the General Court in

1678-9, and after his return to Malden represented that town in 1685 and 1693.

Sarah (Lane) Fitch died before her father, Job Lane,<sup>1</sup> and her portion of the Winthrop farm (one-fourth) was inherited by her son, Samuel Fitch, q.v.

Elizabeth (Lane) Avery is memorialized in King's Chapel, Boston, thus: "Robert H. son of Dr. William Avery of Dedham, b. about 1649, m. Elizabeth Lane, April 13, 1676. He d. Oct. 1722, in ye 73d year of his age. She d. Oct. 2, 1746, in ye 71st year of her age, leaving five children, thirty grandchildren, fifty-two great-grandchildren, and two of the fifth generation." (Rev. John Avery, first minister of Truro, the son of Robert, b. Dec. 26, 1685, d. April 25, 1754, was also a practising physician.)

Jemima (Lane) Whipple died before her father, Job Lane,<sup>1</sup> and her portion of the Winthrop farm (one-fourth) was inherited by her son, Matthew.

**John**,<sup>2</sup> son of Job,<sup>1</sup> m. Mar. 20, 1681-2, Susanna Whipple of Ipswich. She d. Aug. 4, 1713; he d. Jan. 17, 1714-15. Ch. *Susanna*, b. Jan. 24, 1682-3, m. Nathaniel Page,<sup>2</sup> *Job*,<sup>3</sup> d. young. *Mary*, b. May 15, 1686, m. John Whitmore of Medford. *Jemima*, d. young. **John**,<sup>3</sup> b. June 22, 1689. **John**,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 20, 1691. *Martha*, b. Oct. 1, 1694, m. James Minot, a noted schoolmaster of Concord, d. Jan. 18, 1735. **James**,<sup>3</sup> b. Aug. 12, 1696. *Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> d. young.

John Lane<sup>2</sup> was colonel of the militia, and very active during the Indian alarms. He was appointed captain by Richard, Earl of Belmont, Oct. 4, 1699, and a major of the West Regiment of horse and foot militia, Jan. 22, 1711, by Dudley. The original commission is now among the Lane papers. (See Homesteads.) His property was inventoried, June 24, 1715, as follows: Real estate, £1,197 12 s.; personal, £266 10 s. 5d. Among the charges to the estate were funeral expenses, £38 5 s., of which £10 was for gloves for the mourners. Sons Job<sup>4</sup> and John<sup>5</sup> were the administrators. The estate was conducted under the style of Job & John Lane.

Mary (Lane) Whitmore inherited the warlike spirit of her father, Col. John Lane.<sup>2</sup> (See epitaph of Mary Lane, and epitaph.) Her husband, John Whitmore, aided in defraying the charges of forming the town of Bedford. She had six children and a numerous posterity, some of whom settled in Bedford, N.H. Hon. William H. Whitmore of Boston is a descendant.

**Job**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 1713, Martha Ruggles of Roxbury, who d. Sept. 14, 1740; m. 2d, Mary —. She d. Dec. 11, 1783; he d. Aug. 9, 1762. (See epitaph of Dea. Job.) Ch. *Martha*, b. June 22, 1716, m. Nathaniel Adams. **John**,<sup>4</sup> b. Sept. 27, 1718. **John**,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 2, 1720. **Timothy**,<sup>4</sup> b. July 10, 1722. *Mary*, b. Feb. 24, 1725, m. Jonathan Hill of Billerica, d. May 24, 1772. *Whipple*,<sup>4</sup> d. young. *Benjamin*,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 20, 1729, d. Jan. 25, 1754. *Lucy*, b. May 3, 1732, m. Elijah Stearns of Billerica. Twin daus. d. young.

Job Lane<sup>3</sup> was deacon from Feb. 9, 1738, till death, Aug. 9, 1762, and was commissioned a lieutenant of troops on April 10, 1724, by Gov. Dunmer. He occupied the homestead on the Billerica road. He gave by will his estate in England to his son Job,<sup>4</sup> and its equivalent in other property to sons John<sup>4</sup> and Timothy<sup>4</sup>; to grandson, John Lane,<sup>5</sup> "my old clock"; to granddaughter, "only child of my daughter, Martha Adams, the sum of £25 13 s. 4d."; "to daughters Mary Hill and Lucy Stearns my lands in Hardwick."

**John**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> commissioned as captain in 1711, and later as major by Dudley, m. Dec. 31, 1714, Catherine Whiting, who d. April 1, 1731; m. 2d, Mar. 16, 1732, Hannah Abbott of Andover. She d. April 22, 1769; he d. Sept. 23, 1763. (See epitaphs of each.) Ch. *Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 14, 1716, m. Jeremiah Fitch of Bedford. *Catherine*, b. June 27, 1717, m. Benjamin Bacon. *Susanna*, b. April 8, 1720, m. Nathaniel Davis of Vermont. *h John*,<sup>4</sup> b. July 1, 1722. *Matthew*,<sup>4</sup> b. July 10, 1724, d. Aug. 5, 1741. *Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> d. young. By 2d wife, *Hannah*, d. young. *h Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 21, 1737. *Matthew*, b. Aug. 5, 1741.

**James**,<sup>3</sup> (Capt.), son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. April 30, 1719, Martha Minot, who d. July 3, 1762; m. 2d, Aug. 9, 1763, Cherry Wellington, who d. Dec. 17, 1764; m. 3d, May 22, 1766, Mrs. Abigail Farmer, who d. Feb. 25, 1773; m. 4th, Jan. 20, 1774, Mrs. Abigail Merriam, who d. Nov. 15, 1793. He d. April 11, 1783. Ch. *Martha*, b. Mar. 17, 1721-2, m. Samuel Dutton. *Rebecca*, b. Oct. 29, 1723, m. July 31, 1750, Benjamin Hutchinson, Jr., d. May 24, 1814. (See epitaph.) *h James*,<sup>4</sup> b. Mar. 8, 1725-6. *Mary*,<sup>4</sup> d. young. *David*,<sup>4</sup> b. Mar. 17, 1733-4, d. Sept. 20, 1750. He was a college graduate, and died abroad. *Lore* and *Susanna*, d. young. *h Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> b. July 11, 1737.

**Job**,<sup>3</sup> ("Jr."), son of Job,<sup>2</sup> m. Jan. 20, 1747, Susanna Fassett (daug. of Capt. Josiah), who d. Mar. 24, 1775; m. 2d, Jan. 15, 1777, Elizabeth Stickney. He d. June 11, 1796. Ch. *Susan a*, b. Dec. 21, 1747, m. Daniel Davis. *Lydia*, b. Aug. 13, 1749, m. Matthew Fitch. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 15, 1751, m. Nov. 20, 1778, Samuel Gilson. *Hannah*,<sup>4</sup> b. Jan. 31, 1754, m. John Bacon. *Job*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 13, 1756. "Ensign Job Lane" d. Dec. 22, 1788. *Amittai*, b. Feb. 9, 1750, m. Elijah Bacon; m. 2d, Benjamin Bacon. *Mary*, b. June 14, 1761, m. David Lane. *Rehiah*, b. Feb. 14, 1761, m. John Webber, Jr. *h Luke*,<sup>4</sup> b. Sept. 20, 1768. By 2d wife, *Fanna*, b. May 24, 1781, d. single.

Job Lane<sup>4</sup> was wounded at Concord, April 19, 1775. He was pensioned by the government, and received consideration from the town.

**John**,<sup>4</sup> son of Job,<sup>3</sup> m. Ruth Bowman of Lexington, who d. Aug. 13, 1750; m. 2d, Mrs. Sarah (Abbott) Hildreth of Andover. He d. Dec. 7, 1789; she (Mrs. Sarah Parker) d. Mar. 5, 1814. (See epitaph.) Ch. *h John*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 7, 1746. *Francis*,<sup>5</sup> d. young. *Ernest*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 31, 1759, settled in Ashburnham. *Ruth*, b. April 8, 1752, m. Dec. 9, 1772, John Whitney of Littleton. *Benjamin*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 17, 1754, m. May 26, 1781, Anna Page; m. 2d, Isabella Hill. Lived at Ashburnham. *h Zerah*,<sup>5</sup> b. July 5, 1756. *Esther*, b. Mar. 1, 1758, m. Sept. 25, 1778, Josiah Crosby of Amherst, N.H. By 2d wife, *John*,<sup>5</sup> d. young. *h Jonathan*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 15, 1763. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 1, 1765, m. Nov. 1, 1787, Timothy Stearns. Had 11 ch.

**Timothy**,<sup>4</sup> son of Job,<sup>3</sup> m. Mar. 7, 1750-1, Lydia, dau. of Stephen Davis. He d. Dec. 3, 1793; she d. Aug. 31, 1811. (See epitaphs.) Ch. *Luz*,<sup>4</sup> b. Nov. 7, 1751, m. Nov. 23, 1775, Jonathan Putnam. *Elizabeth*, b. May 7, 1753. *h Steph*,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 20, 1755. *Anna*, b. Mar. 30, 1758, m. May 20, 1779, Ebenezer Gould of Chelmsford. *Lydia*, d. young. *Rhoda*, b. May 17, 1763, m. Feb. 12, 1789, Simeon Gould. *Peter*, b. Nov. 8, 1765. *Nathan*,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 11, 1768, d. Dec. 1, 1794. *Lydia*, b. Jan. 10, 1772, d. July 13, 1796.

**John**,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> inherited Thaddeus Davis place from his father, and spent his life there, m. Oct. 28, 1747, Martha Plagg of Woburn. Ch. *Maria*, b. Aug. 13, 1748. *Matthew*,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 8, 1750. *George*, m. *Edgar*,<sup>4</sup> b. July 30,

1753. *Hannah*, b. May 13, 1755, m. John Bacon. (See epitaph.) *Hephzibah*, b. Aug. 30, 1761.

**Samuel**,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> m. Dec. 9, 1763, Elizabeth Fitch. He d. June 26, 1802; she d. Sept. 20, 1796. (See Homesteads.) Ch. *Hannah*, b. Feb. 20, 1765, m. Jonathan Lane,<sup>5</sup> *Dorcas*, b. Feb. 18, 1771, m. Nathan White. *Phoebe*, b. Feb. 12, 1773, m. David Lane. *Tolly*, b. Aug. 15, 1776, m. John Stearns of Billerica.

**James**,<sup>4</sup> son of James,<sup>3</sup> m. Jan. 10, 1751, Mary Wellington. He d. Jan. 4, 1799; she (Mrs. Mary Moore) d. April 12, 1806. Ch. *Oliver Wellington*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 27, 1751, graduated from college in 1772, and settled in Boston,<sup>6</sup> d. Nov. 3, 1793. *James*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 10, 1754, m. 1805, Molly Pollard. He d. 1836; she d. 1848. *h Solomon*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 7, 1756. *h David*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 11, 1759. *Isaac*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 13, 1766, d. May 24, 1803.

James Lane<sup>4</sup> divided his lands between three sons who lived in Bedford. James<sup>5</sup> had the portion which included the present Rodman estate, where he settled. Solomon<sup>5</sup> had the homestead and dwelling where five generations were born (Coolidge place). David<sup>5</sup> had the part which has descended through sons to Job B. (See Homestead.)

**Samuel**,<sup>4</sup> son of James,<sup>3</sup> eighth ch. of Capt. James<sup>3</sup> and Martha Minot, m. Oct. 2, 1762, Ruth Davis, who d. Oct. 22, 1772; m. 2d, Jan. 6, 1774, Hannah French, who d. Sept. 29, 1796; m. 3d, May 21, 1799, Mrs. Frances Reed, who d. Sept. 19, 1807. He d. Jan. 26, 1802. Ch. *Jonas*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 10, 1761, settled in Lancaster. *Rebecca*, b. Jan. 17, 1763, d. Nov. 27, 1791. *Ephraim*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 22, 1767, settled in Walpole, N.H. *Ruth*, b. Jan. 27, 1769, m. Nathaniel Brown. *Ebenezer*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 14, 1771, settled in Cambridge. By 2d wife, *Pamel*,<sup>5</sup> d. young. *Hannah*, b. April 6, 1776, m. Dec. 13, 1801, Isaiah Green of Carlisle. *Samuel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 15, 1778, m. Lucy R. Jones, dau. of Timothy. Had 4 ch. b. here; removed to North Brookfield, where 5 were born. He d. Oct. 2, 1823. She m. 2d, Thomas Wilson of Mason, N.H., d. Jan. 8, 1804. Ch. David Woodward, a prominent man and noted teacher. Others have many descendants. *Peter*, b. Aug. 9, 1780, m. Tilly Green of Carlisle. (See Elm Farm.)

**Luke**,<sup>5</sup> son of Job,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 24, 1791, Hannah Crosby of Billerica. He d. Aug. 27, 1801. She m. 2d, Nathan Dudley of Lexington. Ch. *Luke*,<sup>6</sup> b. Sept. 9, 1791. (See epitaph.) *h Job*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 7, 1794. *h Seth*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 9, 1796. *Hannah*, b. May 4, 1799.

**John**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Nov. 25, 1773, Ruhamah Reed. He d. Feb. 22, 1808; she d. April 30, 1817. Ch. *Ruhamah*, b. Jan. 10, 1775, m. Amariah Preston, M.D., q.v. *Grace*, b. Dec. 22, 1777, d. Nov. 10, 1800. *Eliab*, d. young. *h Zillah*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 21, 1780. *Eliot*, b. April 31, 1782, m. Asa Webber. *John*,<sup>6</sup> b. July 5, 1784. *Ahner*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 18, 1786, d. Aug. 9, 1826. *Jeose*,<sup>6</sup> b. Mar. 25, 1788. *h Amasa*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 30, 1790. *h Roger*,<sup>6</sup> b. 1796.

**Ziba**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. April 1, 1778, Lydia Danforth. Ch. *Hannah*, b. Nov. 27, 1778. *Josiah*,<sup>6</sup> d. young. *Ziba*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 31, 1782.

**Jonathan**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Feb. 1, 1787, Hannah, dau. of Samuel<sup>4</sup> and Elizabeth (Fitch) Lane. He d. Mar. 4, 1808; she d. Mar. 9, 1848. *h Jonathan*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 27, 1788. *Hannah*, b. Oct. 11, 1789, m. Elijah Putnam, d. April 22,

\*It is recorded that when George Washington visited Boston, after being chosen the first President of the United States, he was met at the foot of Cornhill by Master Lane and his school, each student carrying a large goose quill.

1874. *Josiah Abbott*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 17, 1791, m. Phebe Smith of New York, d. Jan. 15, 1860. *Arinda*, b. May 26, 1793, m. May 6, 1824, George Fisk of Amherst, N.H., d. Jan. 24, 1885. *Rebecca*, d. young. *Sarah*, b. May 1, 1797, m. Ebenezer Hayward of Acton. *Sally*, b. 1801, m. Franklin Stearns. *Elizabeth* and *Marya*, d. young. *h George*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 8, 1802. *Charles*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 4, 1804, m. 1827, Sarah B. Wheeler; m. 2d, 1845, Elizabeth Carleton of Dorchester. He d. Oct. 15, 1872. *John Samuel*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 15, 1808, m. 1834, Sally Ann Veninly, d. July 21, 1850.

**Stephen**,<sup>5</sup> son of Timothy,<sup>4</sup> m. May 1, 1806, Mrs. Alice Abbott. He d. May 7, 1827; she d. June 25, 1855. *Ch. Lydia Harriet*, b. Mar. 20, 1808, m. John W. Hayward, d. Dec. 25, 1884. (See Sunny Side, in Homesteads.)

**Solomon**,<sup>5</sup> son of James,<sup>4</sup> at Concord fight and in the Continental army, m. May 20, 1781, Sarah, dau. of Rev. Josiah Stearns and Sarah Abbott. He d. Feb. 1, 1837; she d. Aug. 13, 1825. *Ch. Anna*, b. Aug. 19, 1782, m. Nov. 28, 1805, Samuel Dutton; m. 2d, Samuel Parkhurst. *Josiah*,<sup>6</sup> d. young. *Josiah Stearns*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 11, 1787, m. Amelia Gragg of Groton. *Sally*, b. April 30, 1789, d. Nov. 17, 1854. *Enoch*,<sup>6</sup> d. young. *h Oliver Wellington*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 10, 1794. *Abigail French* and *Pamela*,<sup>6</sup> d. young.

**David**,<sup>5</sup> son of James,<sup>4</sup> m. Oct. 11, 1781, Molly (dau. of Job Lane<sup>4</sup> and Susanna Fassett), who d. Dec. 12, 1820; m. 2d, April 30, 1820, Phoebe (dau. of Samuel Lane<sup>4</sup> and Elizabeth Fitch. He d. Sept. 10, 1842; she d. July 8, 1838. *Ch. Molly*, b. April 23, 1782, m. Thaddeus Wilson. *Susanna*, b. Oct. 14, 1785, m. Samuel Hastings of Waltham. *Job*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 3, 1789, d. Nov. 15, 1814. *Amittai Bacon*, b. July 20, 1793, d. Sept. 13, 1842. *h David*,<sup>6</sup> b. Sept. 7, 1796. *James*,<sup>6</sup> b. July 15, 1799, d. Dec. 11, 1859. *Syrena*, b. Sept. 17, 1801, m. Benjamin Bacon.

**Job**,<sup>5</sup> son of Luke,<sup>4</sup> m. Aug. 10, 1815, Mary Hadley. He d. 1830; she d. 1800. *Ch. Mary Elizabeth*, b. Mar. 5, 1816, m. Jephtha Parkhurst, d. 1852. *Ch. M. b. April 9, 1817, d. 1881. Hannah A. b. 1818, m. Charles C. Corey. Andria W. b. 1820, d. 1842. William*

*Seth*,<sup>6</sup> *Ch. Emeline*, b. Jan. 27, 1829. *Reuben Facon*, b. Jan. 18, 1831. *Alonzo*, b. July 5, 1838.

**Eliab**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Mar. 21, 1802, Anna Wellington, who d. May 30, 1844; m. 2d, Mrs. Sally Reed. He d. Jan. 9, 1853. *Ch. Edna Ann*, b. May 17, 1804, m. William Everett. *h Abner Bridg*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 24, 1806. *Susan Grace*, b. Jan. 22, 1808, m. Nathaniel C. Cutler. *Catherine W.* b. Sept. 2, 1809, m. Silas Wilkins. *Gwen*, b. April 24, 1811. *Mary Persella*, b. Oct. 12, 1812, m. Amos P. Cutler.

**Amasa**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. July 4, 1822, Leulab Lunnham. He d. Aug. 11, 1805. She d. Aug. 23, 1891. *Ch. Liza Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 8, 1823, m. Jan. 10, 1843, Cyrus F. Crosby. *Sarah Ann*, b. May 20, 1829, m. 1849, George A. Sampson. *Reuben A.* b. Sept. 2, 1831, m. 1853, Mary L. Skelton. *George F.* and *Charles H.* twins, b. Aug. 6, 1834; Charles d. Dec. 10, 1865. *Franklin S.* and *Emuel R.* twins, b. Jan. 30, 1838; Franklin S. m. 1868, S. Maria Hodgkins; Emuel, d. May 22, 1866. *Ch. Edna A.* b. Aug. 30, 1847, m. 1860, Charles J. Davis.

Of Amasa Lane's<sup>6</sup> descendants in 1890 there were six children, thirteen grandchildren, and nineteen of the next generation.

**Roger**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Zelma Facon. He d. Dec. 21, 1853; she d. Feb. 29, 1850. *Ch. John Roger*,<sup>6</sup> b. July 10, 1824. *Mary Maria*, b. July 7, 1826, m. Hiram Clark. *h George*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 7, 1827. *Phil* d. young. *Caroline*, b.

May 5, 1831, m. Charles Fox, d. June 6, 1858. *Eliz. b. Mar. 3, 1833, d. May, 1857. Emeline*, d. young. *Emeline*, b. Sept. 14, 1835, m. Asa Howland. *Susan*, b. Nov. 20, 1836, m. Bradley M. Clark; m. 2d, Joseph Litchfield. *Phoebe*, b. Dec. 20, 1837, m. Cyrus Munroe, d. June 12, 1859. *Amos*,<sup>7</sup> d. young. *Sophronia*, b. Sept. 21, 1840, m. Frank Gardner, d. Mar. 9, 1888. *Larima*, b. July 9, 1842, m. 1st John Kyle, 2d Nelson George, 3d Harry Rattenbury.

**Jonathan**,<sup>6</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>5</sup> m. July 27, 1815, Ruhamah Page. (See Homesteads and epitaphs.) He d. Nov. 12, 1860; she d. June 19, 1882. *Ch. Ruhamah* and *Jonathan Abbott*,<sup>7</sup> d. young (see epitaph). *Samuel Wright*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 2, 1820, d. Mar. 25, 1856 (see epitaph). *h Jonathan Abbott*,<sup>7</sup> b. May 15, 1822. *Ruhamah Augusta*, b. 1824, m. Rev. Elihu Loomis, d. Feb. 24, 1867. *Henry Edward*,<sup>7</sup> and *Sarah Ann*, d. in infancy.

**George**,<sup>6</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>5</sup> m. 1826, Lucy Maria Dunn; m. 2d, 1831, Sarah H. Berry of Maine. He d. Feb. 11, 1882. *Ch. Frances Maria*, b. Aug. 26, 1827, d. June 3, 1885. *Lucy Miranda*, d. young. By 2d wife, *Charles DeWitt*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 2, 1833, m. June 20, 1865, Josephine Belle Baker. *Elizabeth Nickerson*, b. Nov. 2, 1835, m. Oct. 30, 1860, Charles A. Church. *Ellen Watson*, b. Feb. 25, 1839. *Richard Byron*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 10, 1843, d. Sept. 30, 1881. *Frank Ernest*, d. young.

**Oliver Wellington**,<sup>6</sup> son of Solomon,<sup>5</sup> m. July 23, 1818, Catherine Walton, who d. July, 1841; m. 2d, Feb. 26, 1843, Mrs. Harriet Blinn. He d. Aug. 1877; she d. June 6, 1869. *Ch. Sarah E.* b. Nov. 27, 1818, m. Henry Goodwin. *Mary W.* b. Mar. 31, 1820, m. Sept. 26, 1841, George W. Briggs, d. April 4, 1860. *h William A.* b. Mar. 12, 1822. *Catherine A.* b. Dec. 4, 1823, m. Joseph H. Goodwin. *Abigail R.* b. June 3, 1826, m. Samuel Wilson, d. June 20, 1854. *h Oliver J.* b. Jan. 20, 1828. *Laura Ann*, d. young. *Laura Ann*, b. May 1, 1834, m. Samuel Wilson, d. June 15, 1863. *h Samuel L.* b. Feb. 24, 1838. *Henry Francis*,<sup>7</sup> d. young.

**David**,<sup>6</sup> son of David,<sup>5</sup> m. Jan. 20, 1826, Betsey B. Simonds. He d. Jan. 10, 1853; she d. Dec. 15, 1868. *Ch. Mary Ann*, b. Aug. 2, 1820, m. William Kelsca, d. July 29, 1875. *h Job Blanchard*,<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 18, 1828. *Maria S.* and *Caroline F.* twins, b. Oct. 17, 1833; Maria S. m. May, 1854, George Isaacs, d. Mar. 31, 1872; Caroline E. m. Nov. 20, 1853, Fairfield K. Davis.

**Abner Bridge**,<sup>7</sup> son of Eliab,<sup>6</sup> m. Lydia Bailey. He d. July 23, 1884; she d. Oct. 1890. *Ch. h George*,<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 26, 1841, m. Sarah M. Butters. *h Chandler*,<sup>8</sup> *Henry*,<sup>8</sup> d. Dec. 5, 1847.

**William A.**,<sup>7</sup> son of Oliver W.,<sup>6</sup> m. Mary Wright, who d. 1852; m. 2d, Julia M. Houghton, who d. 1872; he m. 3d, Sarah M. Lane, d. 1887. *Ch. Mary Ella*, b. Feb. 25, 1840, m. Charles A. Corey. *William W.* d. an infant. *Rosa Bella*, b. July 4, 1858, m. Wallace Ellithorpe.

**Oliver J.**,<sup>7</sup> son of Oliver W.,<sup>6</sup> m. April 20, 1853, Mary A. Billings. *Ch. h John W.* b. May 2, 1854. *Alice W.* b. Feb. 10, 1857, m. Aug. 20, 1883, James Stoddard, had Alice Lane, d. May 20, 1884. *M. Athalia*, b. Dec. 18, 1859. *h Flamer A.* b. Nov. 17, 1863. *Edith I.* b. Jan. 4, 1866.

Oliver J. Lane<sup>7</sup> is a carpenter and builder, often in town office, and has held the office of selectman twenty-five years — the longest service of any one in the history of the town. He has served as moderator of more town meetings than any other citizen.

**Jonathan Abbott**,<sup>7</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>6</sup> m. Nov. 13, 1851,



Sarah Delia, dau. of Rev. Benjamin F. Clarke. Ch. *John Chapin*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 8, 1852, m. Sept. 1883, Harriet Brewer Winslow. *Augusta B.* b. June 2, 1854, d. July 31, 1856. *Fredm. H.* b. May 25, 1858. *Alfred Chauch*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 20, 1863. *Benjamin Clarke*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 2, 1866. *Lucius Page*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 7, 1872.

Jonathan Abbott Lane removed from Bedford to Boston when very young. He has been a successful merchant for many years, has been honored by elections to both branches of the state legislature, and is a prominent man in business, philanthropic, and religious circles.

**Samuel L.**<sup>1</sup> son of Oliver W.<sup>1</sup> a carpenter (see military history), m. May 23, 1861, Frances Pinkham. She d. Jan. 11, 1877. Ch. *Adrian*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 21, 1863, d. July 7, 1879. *Ernest P.* b. Aug. 31, 1873.

**Job B.**<sup>1</sup> son of David,<sup>6</sup> m. June 17, 1862, Caroline P. Russell. He d. May 14, 1896. Ch. *Walter D.* b. Oct. 18, 1866.

**George**,<sup>7</sup> son of Roger,<sup>6</sup> m. July 4, 1858, Laura A. Smith. He d. Oct. 18, 1859; she d. April 2, 1880. Ch. *h Wm. C.* b. May 14, 1859.

**John W.**<sup>1</sup> son of Oliver L.<sup>1</sup> m. Oct. 17, 1886, Mary M. C. Marble. Ch. *William Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 11, 1882. *John Franklin*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 12, 1884, d. Mar. 17, 1896. *Orlando Stearns*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 4, 1887. *Herbert Billing*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 20, 1888. *Samuel Marble*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 18, 1891.

**Elmer A.**<sup>1</sup> son of Oliver J.<sup>1</sup> m. Oct. 23, 1888, Nettie L. Adams. Ch. *Frank Adam*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 16, 1890.

**Willis G.**<sup>1</sup> son of George,<sup>7</sup> m. June 23, 1881, Alice Copeland. Ch. *Maryon White*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 11, 1883. *Percy Herculana*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 5, 1887.

#### SECOND JOB LANE FAMILY.

The second family of Lane, with Job at the head, appears in the records of Billerica about 1700. The connection with the first Lane family is uncertain; but it is possible that he was a son of James, who was brother of Job of the Winthrop purchase. He is recorded in the early records of Bedford as Job Lane, Sr. (See Oak Grove Farm.)

**Job**,<sup>1</sup> m. Mary, dau. of Patrick and Sarah Fasset of Billerica. (See epitaphs.) Ch. *Mary*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 18, 1706. *Joseph*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 11, 1708, m. Thankful Amnden, d. at Sutton, 1736; left son, *Joseph*, b. 1736. *Susanna*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 2, 1710-11. *h P.*<sup>2</sup> and *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> twins, b. Jan. 20, 1713-14. *Samuel*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 7, 1716, d. Nov. 25, 1736. (See epitaph.) *Silene*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 2, 1719. *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 17, 1722-3.

**Job**,<sup>2</sup> m. Sarah —. Ch. *Sarah*,<sup>3</sup> b. Jan. 28, 1730-4. *Levi*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 14, 1741-2. *Jonathan*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 13, 1743-4, bap. Feb. 5. *Samuel*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 6, 1746. *Mary*,<sup>3</sup> b. Mar. 16, 1747-8.

Job Lane<sup>3</sup> was a college graduate (1764). The following is a translation from a Latin epitaph on a headstone erected over his grave at Hartford, Conn.: "Stop Traveller Here, hard by, Levi D. Job Lane, A.M. Tutor in Yale College, a man distinguished for his talents, sobriety, literary attainments, and piety. This perishable monument briefly witnesses to thee — That he was born in Bedford, A.D. 1741; That in Youth he was very fond of study; That in academic pursuits he surpassed others; That for three Years he earnestly preached the Gospel; That for two years he faithfully performed the duties of Tutor; That he was very dear to his parents; loved by his friends and all favorers of piety; that deeply mourned by all he departed this life Sept. 16, 1768."

This family is found to be connected with the Lanes of the state of Maine.

**LAWRENCE, Sylvanus**, of Waltham, m. H. Melvina S. Reed, d. July 30, 1868. Ch. *h Charles F.* b. April, 1841. *Geor. & Otis*, b. Jan. 1843. *Frank I.* d. young.

**Charles F.** m. Esther Walker. He was in Battery C in the Union Army, in twenty-seven engagements, and escaped without injury. He d. Nov. 9, 1884. Ch. *Melvin A.* b. May 28, 1871, m. Edward Hunnewell. *Annie Winthrop*, b. 1874, d. 1875.

**LAWS, Hiram**, b. in Westminster, June 27, 1844, m. Oct. 15, 1871, Mary Elizabeth Dutton, b. in Chelmsford, Oct. 15, 1840. Ch. *Eugene Hiram*, b. Sept. 20, 1873. *Frederick Adams*, b. April 4, 1876. *Kenneth Rogers*, b. May 3, 1883. *Julia Ellen*, b. Jan. 8, 1886.

**LITCHFIELD, Joseph**, b. in Boston, June 14, 1815, m. Sept. 18, 1845, Theresa Webber, who d. Nov. 15, 1853; m. 2d, May 6, 1884, Mrs. Susan L. Clark. Ch. *Joseph Warren*, b. Sept. 11, 1847, m. Abbie Mitchell of South Paris, Me.; have Harry Warren and Edith Marion. *Marion T.* b. July 4, 1846, m. Henry M. Ames of Oswego, N.Y., d. at Pasadena, Cal.; have Nellie Theresa and Louisa.

**LOOMIS, Elihu G.** b. Oct. 22, 1852, m. April 11, 1882, Marian Hillhouse Fitch of Norwich, Conn. Ch. *Mary Fitch*, b. July 20, 1883. *Ralph Lane*, b. April 13, 1887. *Hubert Hillhouse*, b. Mar. 16, 1890. (See professional men.)

**LYONS, William**, came from Sudbury, settled on a portion of the Page estate, and built the present dwelling in 1885, m. Margaret Flannigan. Ch. *John Bernard*, b. May 30, 1853, m. Louisa Sexton of Boston. *Mary Jane*, b. Sept. 2, 1854, m. John F. Dowd of Concord. *William Joseph*, b. April 6, 1856. *Margaret Ann*, b. Nov. 17, 1857, m. Daniel Gorman of Lexington. *Sarah Francis*, b. May 30, 1856, m. William L. Neville of Lexington. *Elizabeth Anna*, b. Nov. 12, 1860, m. William H. Bowler of Waltham. *Henry Dennis*, b. April 8, 1862. *George Augustine*, b. Feb. 14, 1864. *Edward Joseph*, b. Sept. 14, 1865, m. Sarah J. Lawler of Westvale. *Francis*, b. June 14, 1867, d. April 10, 1877. *Charles Augustus*, b. Sept. 13, 1868. *Ellen*, b. July 10, 1870, d. Sept. 25, 1871. *Emma Louise*, b. Sept. 20, 1875, d. April 6, 1877.

**MANSFIELD, Joel**, m. Maria Bacon. He d. May 30, 1870; she d. Sept. 16, 1882. Ch. *Fredrick F.* b. Nov. 1847, d. Dec. 4, 1867. *Charlotte M.* d. young. *Emily F.* d. April 16, 1878.

**MAXWELL**, a family prominent in the early history of the town, but now extinct. **Hugh**, b. near Pelast, Ire., left his country because of religious persecution, and settled in Bedford in 1732. (See Homesteads.) He d. 1759. (See epitaph.) His wife d. 1760. Their son, *Hugh*, b. in Ireland, m. Bridget Munroe of Lexington, 1759; had 5 ch. Hugh and Bridget joined Bedford church "in full communion" in 1760, and dau. Hannah was bap. at same time. He became a famous warrior and military leader. At the time of his death (1769), he held commission of lieutenant-colonel. (See military chapters.) The following is from his journal: "My parents early taught me the principles of liberty and religion which have supported me through many difficulties and hardships."

**Thompson**,<sup>2</sup> son of Hugh,<sup>1</sup> b. at Bedford, 1742, m. 1763, Sybel Wyman of Lexington. He was famous in military life. (See military chapters.) He d. near Detroit, Mich., when past 60 years of age, having been pensioned with the rank of major. There are remarkable instances of hon-

geivity in the family, — William, d. at 95; Margaret, at 99; Hugh, at 67; Sarah, at 90; Benjamin, at 92; James, at 83; and Thompson, at 93.

**McGOVERN, Terrance**, from Ireland, settled on a portion of the Samuel Hartwell farm. He m. Jan. 6, 1860, Mary Calahan, d. July 13, 1887. Ch. *Mary*, b. Dec. 1861. *John* and *Lizzie*, twins, b. July, 1863. *James*, b. July, 1865. *Annie*, b. April, 1867. *Frank*, b. Nov. 1868.

**John**, from Ireland in 1853, settled on Samuel Hartwell farm in 1862. He m. Jan. 6, 1861, Winnie Whalin, who d. April 7, 1871; m. 2d, June 10, 1883, Ann McGuire. Ch. *Mary T.* b. Feb. 6, 1862, m. Thomas McDonough. *William*, b. July 1, 1863. *John*, b. Aug. 20, 1865. *James*, b. Feb. 22, 1867. *Annie*, b. Dec. 3, 1869. *Frank*, b. Mar. 26, 1871.

**McGUIRE, Peter**, settled in Bedford on Amasa Lane farm, m. Aug. 1850, Sarah Cosgrove. Ch. *Emily M.* b. June, 1860. *Mary A.* b. May, 1866, d. Nov. 1885.

**MEAD**, a prominent family in the early years of the town. Savage says Gabriel<sup>1</sup> was a freeman in 1638, and d. 1666, aged 79. His son, Israel,<sup>2</sup> b. 1639, m. Mary Hall, d. 1714. Their son, Stephen,<sup>3</sup> b. 1679, m. Ruth Taylor in 1700, and had Joseph,<sup>4</sup> b. 1712. He m. Elizabeth, dau. of Samuel and Eunice Fitch. They had Stephen,<sup>5</sup> b. 1736, Joseph,<sup>6</sup> b. 1740, and others. Stephen<sup>5</sup> m. 1765, Desire Batchelder, widow of Joseph Brown, q.v. Their son, Asa, b. 1774, m. Nabby Eames of Woburn. They had 8 ch., of whom Asa<sup>6</sup> is buried on the abandoned "Meads' Place," q.v.

**MERRIAM**. The Merriams were among the very early settlers of Concord, hence of Bedford. Robert, George, and Joseph — three brothers from England — appear as the ancestors of the family.

**Joseph<sup>1</sup>** is the head of the Bedford family. He was the last survivor of the trio, and d. Jan. 1, 1641. He m. Sarah —. Ch. *Joseph<sup>2</sup>*, b. about 1630, m. Sarah Stone. *John<sup>2</sup>*, b. July 9, 1641. *William<sup>2</sup>*, *Sarah*, and *Elizabeth* are others.

Joseph Merriam's<sup>1</sup> will, dated Dec. 29, 1640, mentions wife Sarah, brothers Thomas Flint, Simon Willard, and Robert Merriam, and son William. His widow m. 2d, Lieut. Joseph Wheeler, who purchased the estate of the heirs of Joseph Merriam.<sup>1</sup>

The Bedford line is traced through John,<sup>2</sup> who was the second son of Joseph.<sup>1</sup>

**John<sup>2</sup>**, son of Joseph,<sup>1</sup> m. 1663, Mary Cooper. He d. Feb. 2, 1703-4; she d. Mar. 5, 1731, aged 85. Ch. *John<sup>3</sup>*, b. Sept. 3, 1666, m. Sarah Wheeler. *Joseph<sup>3</sup>*, b. Aug. 15, 1667, m. Dorothy Brooks. *Anna*, b. Sept. 7, 1669, m. Daniel Brooks. *Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>*, b. Dec. 16, 1672. *Samuel<sup>3</sup>*, b. July 25, 1681. *Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>*, b. —, m. Elizabeth Brooks.

One branch of the Bedford line descends through **Nathaniel<sup>3</sup>**, the fourth child of John.<sup>2</sup> He m. Nov. 18, 1707, Mary Taylor. He d. Dec. 11, 1738; she d. May 19, 1764. Ch. *Mary*, b. Dec. 22, 1702, m. Francis Wheeler. *John<sup>4</sup>*, b. May 16, 1704.

Nathaniel Merriam<sup>3</sup> was active in the incorporation of the town and in organizing the church. He was chosen deacon Aug. 4, 1730, and remained in the position till his death, Dec. 11, 1738. A silver cup in the communion service of the church is inscribed to the memory of Dea. Nathaniel Merriam and Mrs. Eunice Taylor. (See epitaph.) Nathaniel Merriam,<sup>3</sup> by will, dated Oct. 18, 1738, proved Jan. 1739, provided for wife Mary, and gave to

son John the residue, after paying legacies; and after the decease of his mother to have the entire estate.

**John<sup>4</sup>**, son of Nathaniel,<sup>3</sup> m. Mar. 23, 1731, Abigail Howard, d. Sept. 20, 1767. (See epitaph of Lieut. John.) She m. 2d, James Lane, and d. Nov. 15, 1793. (See epitaph of 4th wife of James Lane.) Ch. *Rebekah*, b. Sept. 28, 1731, m. Joseph Stone of Framingham. *Mary*, b. July 25, 1733, m. Ephraim Crosby of Billerica. *John<sup>5</sup>*, b. Feb. 13, 1734-5. *Anna*, b. July 13, 1737, m. Thomas Page of Bedford. (See Anna Page's will.) *Nathaniel<sup>5</sup>*, b. Dec. 15, 1739, d. in his majesty's service at Lake George, Sept. 1758. *Lydia*, b. April 6, 1742, m. Rev. Nathaniel Sherman. Three d. young. *William<sup>5</sup>*, b. Aug. 25, 1750.

Abstract of John Merriam's<sup>4</sup> will, made Aug. 11, 1767: To wife, Abigail, money and household goods and the improvement of certain parts of house, and my negro servant named Abraham to be at her own disposal agreeable to the term of his service. (See slavery.) To my sons, John and William, the residue of my estate after paying legacies.

**John<sup>5</sup>**, son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Dec. 4, 1760, Hannah Brooks of Lincoln. He d. Dec. 26, 1792; she d. June 8, 1829, aged 92. (She gave a silver cup to the church in 1818.) Ch. *Rebecca*, d. young. *Hannah*, b. April 14, 1764, m. John Reed. *Rebecca*, b. Mar. 25, 1766, d. Mar. 2, 1790. *Anna* and *Mary*, d. young. *John<sup>6</sup>*, b. Aug. 28, 1774.

**William<sup>5</sup>** (Lieut.), son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. Esther Bellamy (see epitaph); m. 2d, Mrs. Rebecca Fisk. Ch. *Esther*, b. Nov. 1, 1771, m. John Page. *William Bellamy<sup>6</sup>*, d. young. *William Bellamy<sup>6</sup>*, b. Feb. 2, 1779, m. Rebecca Whiting of Shirley. *Josephus<sup>6</sup>*, d. young. *Josephus<sup>6</sup>*, b. Mar. 10, 1785, m. Betsey Rand of Stow, d. at Westport, N.Y. By 2d wife, *Rebecca*, b. Nov. 23, 1780. *Anna P.*, b. May 2, 1790, m. Caldwell Hindman of Boston. (See epitaph.) Had Anna, m. Kendall, live in Woburn. *Louisa H.*, b. Oct. 2, 1792, d. young.

Lieut. William Merriam<sup>5</sup> fitted for college, and entered Brown University, took part course, settled on the farm in Bedford; was town clerk, selectman, and deacon in church. His mind became diseased, and he killed David Bacon, who had been placed as keeper over him. He was dismissed from the arms of the law, and cared for by his son in New York, where he died.

**John<sup>6</sup>** (Esq.), son of John,<sup>5</sup> m. Dec. 3, 1799, Mary, dau. of Nathan and Mary (Page) Reed of Lexington. He d. Sept. 19, 1853; she d. Aug. 14, 1855. Ch. *Eldridge<sup>7</sup>*, b. Feb. 8, 1802. *John Augustus<sup>7</sup>*, b. Dec. 20, 1803. *Mary Adeline*, d. young. *Hiram R.<sup>7</sup>*, b. Aug. 5, 1808, d. Mar. 29, 1848. *Mary A.*, b. Jan. 28, 1812, m. Mar. 7, 1833, Joseph B. Hodgman, d. Feb. 12, 1843; left Charles Otis, who m. E. Fannie Clement, and d. Mar. 3, 1889. *Susan F.*, b. Oct. 20, 1818, m. Dr. Abel B. Adams.

John Merriam<sup>6</sup> was a leading man in the town, and prominent in promoting its varied interests. He was a leader in laying out Shawshin Cemetery, and gave the sum of \$100 to aid the enterprise.

**Eldridge<sup>7</sup>**, son of John,<sup>6</sup> m. April 15, 1823, Eliot Webber, who d. July 24, 1855; m. 2d, Mar. 23, 1856, Mrs. Sarah Brown. He d. Sept. 25, 1868. Ch. *John Eldridge<sup>8</sup>*, b. Oct. 13, 1824, d. 1889. *Lucretia Eliot*, b. Nov. 9, 1827, m. Hiram Farmer. *Eveline*, d. an infant. *Lucy Eveline*, b. Jan. 11, 1835, m. George W. Cutler, d. Mar. 26, 1857. *Asa Minot*, b. July, 1838, m. Charlotte Gorham. *Nathan Albert*, b. Mar. 1840, m. Lucy P. Lincoln; 2 ch. died; she d. April,

1891. *Mary Addline*, b. April 9, 1844, d. Jan. 15, 1863. By 2d wife, *Charles*, b. 1858, d. 1877.

**John Augustus**,<sup>7</sup> son of John,<sup>6</sup> m. April 14, 1830, Nancy Bacon. He d. Mar. 19, 1882; she d. July 20, 1878. Ch. *Maria Antoinette*, b. Dec. 20, 1830, m. Daniel L. Shorey. *Nancy J.* d. young. **William A.** b. May 20, 1834. *Mary Jane*, b. Nov. 10, 1835, m. Amos Warren Proctor. *Edward Jerome*,<sup>8</sup> d. young. *George H.* b. Jan. 22, 1840, d. Feb. 8, 1886. *John*,<sup>9</sup> d. an infant. *Nancy*, b. Dec. 1, 1847.

Maria Antoinette Shorey attended the district school, also a private school taught by Rev. George W. Woodward, the pastor of the Unitarian church in this town, and in the latter was inspired to press forward to higher attainments than were generally sought by her sex. The teacher, being associated with such educators as Samuel J. May and Horace Mann, was ahead of the times, but found in this young lady one who was ready to follow him. She studied six months at Lawrence Academy, Groton, and at the age of sixteen years began the profession of a public school teacher, which she followed with success until her marriage, in 1856, with D. L. Shorey, attorney at law, when she went to reside at Davenport, Ia. Two children, Paul and Martha Hall, were born to them during their residence of ten years in that town, after which they located in Chicago, where she has gained fame as a writer for magazines and various publications. She has studied in Europe, and perfected herself in the German tongue. Her son, Paul, a graduate of Harvard College (1878), studied in Germany, received the degree of Ph.D. at Munich, and is now (1891) professor at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, and a writer and lecturer upon the Greek and Latin classics.

**William A.**,<sup>8</sup> son of John A.<sup>7</sup> m. 1859, Mary Deckro. Ch. *Annie*, b. Aug. 1860. *Walter, Arthur*, and *Elizabeth*.

#### SECOND BRANCH OF BEDFORD LINE.

**Samuel**,<sup>1</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Sarah Wheeler. He d. Mar. 22, 1761; she d. Dec. 1, 1743. Ch. *Sarah*, b. April 1, 1713, m. David Wheeler. *Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> b. Aug. 5, 1717. **h** *Nathaniel*,<sup>4</sup> b. May 7, 1720. *Amos*,<sup>4</sup> b. July 13, 1723, m. Hannah Dantorth (<sup>5</sup>).

The will of Samuel Merriam, dated Nov. 28, 1758, gives to son Nathaniel land and buildings in Bedford, after paying debts, legacies, etc.

**Nathaniel**,<sup>4</sup> son of Samuel,<sup>3</sup> m. Olive Wheeler. He d. May 9, 1802; she d. Nov. 25, 1806. Ch. *Samuel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 5, 1749. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 10, 1753, m. Zebulon Converse of Rindge, N. H. *Olee*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 1, 1763.

**Samuel**,<sup>5</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. Feb. 21, 1785, Alice, dau. of Simon Newton and Amittai Fassett, and widow of Thomas Hadley. He d. Nov. 25, 1822; she d. 1836 (?). Ch. *Sally*, b. April 17, 1785, m. John Grover of Lexington. **h** *Jonas*,<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 22, 1787. *Mary*, b. April 4, 1791, m. George Pierce, had 7 ch., several of whom settled in Bedford; *Mary* m. Joshua Jackson of Bedford. *Thomas*, b. Jan. 29, 1793. *Lucy*, —. *Nathaniel*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 23, 1795. *Hannah*, b. July 23, 1799, m. — Lock of West Cambridge.

The record of the marriage of Samuel Merriam and Alice Hadley has the following appended note: "Said Alice Hadley married in a borrowed suit of clothes." This probably arose from an idea that if a man married a wife, and had no property with her, he could not be held

responsible for her debts. Hence he took her without even the clothing she had on. — *Hudson*.

**Jonas**,<sup>6</sup> son of Samuel,<sup>5</sup> m. Nancy Pierce. He d. 1822; she d. 1817. Ch. *Isaac*,<sup>7</sup> b. June 23, 1809 (deaf mute). *Addline*, b. July 24, 1812, m. Sheubel Batchelder; m. 2d, Thomas Work. *Mary Ann*, b. Mar. 17, 1817, m. Charles E. Carruth of Paxton.

**MERRITT, Edward**, m. Mar. 27, 1828, Betsey C. Tarbell. d. May 20, 1882. Ch. *Geor e.*, b. Mar. 21, 1830, d. Dec. 21, 1847. *Caroline*, b. June 4, 1832. *Ellen*, b. July 8, 1836, d. Oct. 16, 1839. *Emily*, b. July 26, 1838, m. N. S. Daniels, d. June 4, 1882. **h** *Edward*, b. July 2, 1841, m. Mary Winchester; he was in Union army; d. July 24, 1889. *Helen*, b. Mar. 26, 1845, m. W. P. Putnam of Wilton, N. H.

**MONROE, Jonas**, of Scotch descent, son of Jonas and Sarah Henris of Carlisle, b. Mar. 17, 1795, came to Bedford about 1823, and entered the employ of Elijah Stearns, Esq., whose successor he became as a merchant. He m. Nov. 24, 1831, Abigail F., dau. of Rev. Samuel Stearns, who d. Jan. 1833; m. 2d, May 1, 1834, Mary A., dau. of Capt. Abner Stearns. He d. May 11, 1879. Ch. *Ellen Maria*, b. Aug. 30, 1832, m. John Clifford, d. Jan. 20, 1887. By 2d wife, **h** *George Henry*, b. Nov. 15, 1835. **h** *Jonas Edward*, b. May 4, 1837. *Caroline French* and *Catherine Frances*, twins, b. April 21, 1839; *Caroline* m. Charles E. Gleason; *Catherine* d. in infancy.

**George Henry**, son of Jonas, m. Oct. 11, 1871, Caroline M. Brower. Ch. *George H.* b. June 29, 1874. *Mary Ann*, b. Feb. 22, 1878.

**Jonas E.** son of Jonas, was in Union Army; m. Nov. 2, 1865, Ellen M. Butterfield. Ch. *Clara Josephine*, b. April 27, 1869.

**Abel S.** b. Oct. 1807, m. April 26, 1838, Sarah Wright, who d. Mar. 3, 1844; m. 2d, Dec. 1844, Caroline Bacon. She d. Jan. 31, 1860; he d. June 21, 1861. Ch. *Sophronia*, b. —, d. April 27, 1844. *George W.* *Sarah F.* b. Jan. 1840, m. Knowlton.

**Jonathan**, m. Almira Page. He d. Jan. 6, 1865; she d. April 13, 1872. Ch. *James*, b. 1829, d. Sept. 6, 1863. *Clariett*, m. Wesley Carvill.

James Monroe joined the Union army, Oct. 15, 1862, as a member of Company G, Forty-seventh Regiment, served a term of nine months, and died from disease contracted in the service of his country.

"Though not upon the battle-field  
He breathed his latest breath.  
For freedom and for country still  
He died a hero's death."

**MUDGE.** The immigrant ancestor, Thomas, who was born in England in 1624, was in Malden, Mass., in 1657. The line of descent is as follows: Thomas,<sup>1</sup> b. 1624; John,<sup>2</sup> b. 1654; John,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 21, 1686, d. Nov. 26, 1762; John,<sup>4</sup> b. Dec. 30, 1713, d. Nov. 26, 1762; Simon,<sup>5</sup> b. April 8, 1748, d. Aug. 27, 1799; Simon,<sup>6</sup> b. Sept. 8, 1775, d. Feb. 10, 1853.

**William W.**,<sup>7</sup> b. in Danvers, Mar. 30, 1821, m. April 26, 1848, Harriet, dau. of Jonathan and Rebecca Perry of Danvers, d. Dec. 8, 1884. Ch. *Rebecca F.* b. Jan. 23, 1849. *Elizabeth* and *Almira*, twins, b. June 10, 1851, d. in infancy. *William H.* b. June 15, 1853. *Harriet M.* b. July 27, 1857.

William W. Mudge<sup>7</sup> settled on a part of the Merriam farm in 1856, where his family now live. He was often in town office, and was a member of the Evangelical church.

**MYERS, Michael**, settled in Bedford on a portion of the Page estate which had been occupied by John Davis. He m. Feb. 1878, Lena Tigh. Ch. *Mary*, b. Feb. 1870. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 1882. *Fannie*, b. Feb. 1886. *William*, b. July, 1888.

**NEVILLE, John**, m. April, 1850, Maria Keane, and settled on the Stephen Davis farm (See Homesteads.) Ch. *Mary Ann*, b. Mar. 1850, d. Jan. 1878. *William J.* b. Feb. 1853, m. Sarah Lyons. *John Henry*, b. Dec. 1855. *George Martin*, b. Nov. 1857, d. 1861. *Ellen E.* b. Mar. 1860. *Sarah J.* b. June, 1863. *Hannah M.* b. Jan. 1866. *James T.* b. Mar. 1867. *Katherine C.* b. June, 1871. *P. Henry*, b. June, 1874.

**PAGE, or PAIGE, Nathaniel**,<sup>1</sup> was in Roxbury in 1686. He is thought to have been brother of Nicholas of Boston, 1665, who came from Plymouth, Eng. Gov. Joseph Dudley appointed Nathaniel<sup>1</sup> sheriff of Suffolk County. He bought land of George Grimes, and settled in Billerica (now Bedford) in 1688. (See Homestead.) He m. Joanna, and d. "12-02-92" (Apr. 12, 1692). Ch. *Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> b. about 1679. *Elizabeth*, m. John Simpkins of Boston. *Sarah*, m. Samuel Hill. *James*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Christopher*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1690-1.

Nathaniel Page<sup>1</sup> left will, dated April 11, 1692, approved May 9, 1692. Some of the items from the inventory are: "Iron work belonging to the saw-mill, £3 02s.; 3 horses, £8; 24 sheep and lambs, £7; 9 milch cows, £20; 6 oxen, £22; 40 bush. corn, £4; farm buildings and all lands in Billerica, £225; a servant man, £15; a farm of 200 acres at Dedham, £30; a farm at Squabauge and Worcester, £10."

**Nathaniel**,<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>1</sup> b. in England, and came to New England when about 14 years old. He m. Nov. 6, 1701, Susannah Lane, who d. 1746; m. 2d, 1748, Mary Grimes. He d. 1755. (See epitaph.) Ch. *Nathaniel*,<sup>3</sup> b. Sept. 4, 1702. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 11, 1704. *Christopher*,<sup>3</sup> b. July 16, 1707. *Susannah*, b. April 29, 1711, m. Samuel Bridge of Lexington, d. 1735. *Joanna*, b. 1714, m. Josiah Fassett.

**Christopher**,<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>1</sup> m. Joanna —, who d. Oct. 27, 1710; m. 2d, May 23, 1720, Elizabeth, dau. of Dea. George Reed of Woburn. He d. in Hardwick, Mar. 10, 1774; she d. 1786. Ch. *Joanna*, b. Aug. 10, 1717, m. Benjamin Farley. *Christopher*,<sup>3</sup> b. June 11, 1721, m. Rebecca Haskell. *William*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 2, 1723, m. Mercy Aiken. He d. Feb. 14, 1760; she d. Feb. 19, 1823, aged 102 years. *George*,<sup>3</sup> b. June 17, 1725, m. Rosilla Whitcomb, d. 1781. *Timothy*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 24, 1727, m. Mary Foster of Rochester. He d. Aug. 26, 1791; she d. July 21, 1825, aged 93 years. His son, Timothy, was the father of Rev. L. R. Page, the historian of Cambridge. *Jonas*,<sup>3</sup> b. Sept. 19, 1729. *Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 3, 1731. *Lucy*, b. Feb. 22, 1733-4, m. Seth Lincoln of Newton. There were born in Hardwick, *Nathaniel*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 12, 1736, d. Jan. 6, 1816. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. July 6, 1738, d. April 14, 1811. *Elizabeth*, b. June 7, 1743, m. Solomon Green of Leicester.

**Nathaniel**,<sup>3</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> m. Hannah Blanchard. She d. 1763; he d. 1779. Ch. *Thomas*,<sup>4</sup> b. May 5, 1733. *Hannah*, b. May 15, 1736, m. Jonas French. *William*,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 19, 1737-8. *David*,<sup>4</sup> b. April 4, 1740. *Susanna*, b. Jan. 22, 1742, d. Jan. 26, 1772. *Abigail*, b. Sept. 5, 1745, m. Bowman Brown.

**John**,<sup>3</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 31, 1730, Rebecca Wheeler, who d. July 12, 1755; m. 2d, Jan. 15, 1756, Amitai Fassett, who d. Dec. 25, 1771; m. 3d, June 3, 1773,

Rachel, widow of Joseph Fitch. He d. Feb. 18, 1782; she d. Jan. 26, 1801. Ch. *John*,<sup>4</sup> b. Sept. 2, 1733, settled in Hardwick, founded a numerous family, and d. Oct. 31, 1789. *James*,<sup>4</sup> b. May 12, 1735, d. 1817 in Hardwick. *Ebenezer*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 3, 1737. *Susanna*, d. young. *Timothy*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 11, 1741. *Nathaniel*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 20, 1742. *Rebecca*, b. Aug. 23, 1743, m. Solomon Cutler of Rindge, N.H. *Mary*, d. young. *Joanna*, b. June 15, 1746, m. Samuel Reed of Woburn. *Sarah*, b. June 8, 1747, m. Josiah Beard. *Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 3, 1748, m. Micha Reed. *Susanna*, b. June 12, 1750, m. Amos Haggitt of Concord. *Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 1, 1751, lived in New Hampshire. *Mary*, d. an infant.

John Page<sup>3</sup> was a man of great stature, and was in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill. He aided in capturing six regulars in Lexington, April 19, 1775.

**Christopher**,<sup>3</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>2</sup> m. 1742, Mrs. Susannah (Whitmore) Webber of Medford, dau. of John Whitmore. He d. Nov. 11, 1786; she d. July 20, 1792. Ch. *Christopher*,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 29, 1743, m. Lydia Jaquith; m. 2d, Mrs. Minot. Had no issue. He was at Concord fight. *Mary*, b. Feb. 20, 1746-7, m. Dea. Nathan Reed of Lexington. Four ch. d. young (see epitaphs).

The deaths of children in this family, and also in the Whitmore family connected with it, were from the epidemic, thus described: "The amazing rapidity with which it spread through the country resembled more a storm agitating the atmosphere than the natural progress of disease. . . . Almost a whole city or town or neighborhood became affected with its influence in a few days."

**Thomas**,<sup>4</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>3</sup> m. Jan. 1, 1756, Anna Merriam. He d. July 31, 1809; she d. July 10, 1810.

She gave by will a silver flagon to the church that cost \$140; also the foundation of the "Page and Hartwell Fund."

**William**,<sup>4</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>3</sup> m. Dec. 8, 1763, Patte Hill. He d. Feb. 10, 1812; she d. April 14, 1809.

He gave the first hearse to the town, and made public bequests. His residence was near the Concord line.

**David**,<sup>4</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>3</sup> known as "King David," because of his lordly manner and adherence to the Continental costume, m. Abigail Jones. He d. Jan. 11, 1819. Ch. *David*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 7, 1767. *Hannah*, b. Mar. 11, 1773.

**Ebenezer**,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> m. Feb. 21, 1760, Dorothy Pollard, widow of Joseph Fassett, who d. Feb. 6, 1779; m. 2d, Dec. 4, 1781, Susannah Simonds of Woburn. He d. June 19, 1784. Ch. *Anna*, b. Sept. 29, 1760, m. Benjamin Lane. *Rebekah*, b. June 9, 1763, m. Jonathan Wilson; m. 2d, William Porter. *Ebenezer*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 30, 1765. *John*,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 8, 1767. *Polly*, *Moses*, and *Lucy*, d. young. *Molly*, b. July 24, 1774. *Joshua*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 18, 1779. By 2d wife, *William*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 19, 1783. *Moses*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 9, 1784. *Lucy* (not recorded), m. Matthew Hayward of Foxboro. (See Hayward family.)

**Timothy**,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> m. Margaret Wellington, d. Oct. 25, 1776. She m. 2d, Asa Fassett, d. Oct. 25, 1804. Ch. *Joseph II*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 16, 1767. *Dorcas*, b. April 22, 1775, m. James Wright.

Timothy Page<sup>4</sup> was in the war of the Revolution from the opening scene until his death at the battle of White Plains, N.Y. (See military section.)

**Nathaniel**,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> a Minute Man of Bedford, m. Dec. 15, 1774, Sarah, dau. of James Brown. He d. July, 1819; she d. Aug. 22, 1839. Ch. *Nathaniel*,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 25,

1775. *Sarah*, b. May 22, 1777, m. Samuel Randall. *h Timothy*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 29, 1779. *h John*<sup>2</sup> and *Benjamin*<sup>2</sup> twins, b. Mar. 3, 1781. *Christopher*<sup>2</sup> and *h Thomas*<sup>2</sup> twins, b. Dec. 10, 1784; Benjamin settled in Foxboro, Mass., and d. May 4, 1840. *h Thaddeus*<sup>2</sup> and *Rubamah*, b. May 1, 1788; Rubamah m. Jonathan Lane. (See Lane family.)

*John*<sup>1</sup> (Capt.), son of Ebenezer,<sup>3</sup> a carpenter and builder, m. Feb. 14, 1792, *Esther* (Merriam). He d. June 29, 1848; she d. Dec. 21, 1852. Ch. *Clara*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 4, 1794. *Esther Bellamy*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 12, 1796, m. Asa Reed. *Almira*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 26, 1797, m. Jonathan Munroe. *Abigail*<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 9, 1800, m. Elizabeth T. Currier, d. m. Billerica, Feb. 18, 1868. *Bellaamy*<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 5, 1802, d. Nov. 29, 1881. *Louisa H.* b. July 17, 1806. *Anna Priscilla*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 9, 1808.

*Joshua*<sup>2</sup> son of Ebenezer,<sup>3</sup> m. Sally Davis, who d. Nov. 25, 1814; m. 2d, Lacey Gault; m. 3d, Nancy Gault; m. 4th, Betsey May; m. 5th, Mary A. Robbins. He d. Nov. 27, 1842. Ch. *Sarah Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Sally Maria*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 20, 1814, m. Ezra A. Conson. *Mary Ann*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 13, 1816, m. Orville Tyler. *Dolly Frelaine*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant. *Harriet Jane*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 28, 1823. *Asenath Gault*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 20, 1824. *Wm. Waterman*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 16, 1826, m. — Pillsbury. *Lucretia*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 25, 1829.

*William*<sup>2</sup> son of Ebenezer,<sup>3</sup> m. Lucy Simonds. He d. in Somerville; she d. Dec. 14, 1849. Ch. *Moses*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 16, 1816. *Susanna Simonds*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Susanna Simonds*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 27, 1823, m. Albion S. Willard.

*Moses*<sup>2</sup> son of Ebenezer,<sup>3</sup> m. Mrs. Hannah (Evans) Putnam. He d. Nov. 5, 1801; she d. Aug. 8, 1841. Ch. *Susanna*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 12, 1828, d. Feb. 8, 1855.

*Nathaniel*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. Sept. 10, 1801, Lydia Fitch. He d. Aug. 30, 1858; she d. Jan. 24, 1852. Ch. *h Cyrus*<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 26, 1801. *Fiddie*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 9, 1803, m. Hiram Webber, d. April 5, 1834. *Isaac Fitch*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 30, 1805, d. Nov. 21, 1844. *Nathaniel*<sup>2</sup> d. an infant. *Nathaniel*<sup>2</sup> b. May 31, 1809, m. 1802, d. Aug. 5, 1880. *David*<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 4, 1811, d. Dec. 6, 1872. *Benjamin*<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 15, 1814, d. Jan. 15, 1848. *Samuel*<sup>2</sup> b. May 30, 1816, d. Jan. 31, 1830, a member of the junior class of Dartmouth College.

*Timothy*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. Isanna Harrington. He d. Dec. 26, 1860; she d. Aug. 2, 1861. Ch. *h Larkin Pierce*<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 24, 1802. *h Timothy R.*<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 18, 1809. *h Daniel Harrington*<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 4, 1819.

*John*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. June 5, 1810, Lucy, dau. of Dea. Moses Fitch. They both d. Feb. 1861. Ch. *Ann Reed*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 21, 1811, m. Jabez W. Burnham, d. Sept. 22, 1888. *h Benjamin*<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 30, 1812. *Lucy Almira*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 14, 1815, m. Herbert Wyman of Woburn. *Rocky Loomis*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 13, 1818, d. Sept. 8, 1888. She bequeathed \$500 to church in Bedford. *Mary Fitch*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 23, 1820, m. Charles H. Adams. *Sarah Brown*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 2, 1822, m. Benjamin F. Wyet of Woburn. *Martha Jane*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 28, 1824, m. Dea. Luther Richardson of Winchester. *Susannah Stearns* and *John Irving*,<sup>2</sup> d. young.

*Thomas*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. Betsey Porter. He d. Aug. 22, 1800; she d. Mar. 12, 1867. Ch. *Isanna*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 12, 1800, m. Caleb Sumner Brown, had 8 ch. and d. Dec. 1890. *Harriet*,<sup>2</sup> b. April, 1813, m. William Green, d. Feb. 11, 1888. *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 1817, m. Nov. 2, 1837, Nathan Taylor; m. 2d, Dec. 30, 1840, Joseph Hartwell.

*Thaddeus*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>4</sup> m. Dolly Richardson. He d. Jan. 17, 1837; she d. Aug. 15, 1886, aged 100 years 6 months. One ch. d. young.

*Cyrus*<sup>2</sup> son of Nathaniel,<sup>5</sup> m. Sept. 15, 1840, Susan E.

Hall, d. May 4, 1887. Ch. *Henrietta*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 21, 1843, m. June 15, 1861, Augustus G. Davis, d. Nov. 2, 1881. *h Cyrus Andrew*<sup>2</sup> b. June 9, 1845. *Harriet F.* b. Nov. 13, 1847, m. Nov. 13, 1867, Charles E. Lauriat of Boston. *Isadora*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 22, 1850, m. Oct. 1, 1879, Dr. C. H. Brockway. *Nathaniel*<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 1, 1854, d. Mar. 11, 1884.

*Larkin P.*<sup>2</sup> son of Timothy,<sup>5</sup> m. Dec. 3, 1829, Rebecca Hunt. He d. Sept. 17, 1871; she d. April 22, 1891. Ch. *h Charles Parker*<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 31, 1830. *Eveline R.* b. Jan. 19, 1832, m. Lorenzo Barnard. *Caroline M.* b. Sept. 20, 1833, m. George Flint of Concord. *h Henry Larkin*<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1836. *h John Flint*<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 24, 1838. *Sarah Augusta*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant. *h Grosvenor Abijah*<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 6, 1842. *Isanna*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *William E.* d. an infant. *Isanna H.* b. Dec. 7, 1852, m. Arthur B. Harvey.

*Timothy R.*<sup>2</sup> son of Timothy,<sup>5</sup> m. Feb. 27, 1834, Mary A. Hersey, d. Mar. 19, 1891. Ch. *Frances Victoria*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Marian Josephine*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 24, 1837. *Thaddeus*<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 28, 1839. *William C.* b. Aug. 8, 1841, m. Aug. 1867, Helen F. Leeds. He is a hardware merchant in New York City. *Frank H.* d. young.

Timothy R. Page was connected with the United States government twelve years, with the governor and council of Massachusetts two years, and with the city government of Boston twenty-eight years.

*Daniel*<sup>2</sup> son of Timothy,<sup>5</sup> m. Nov. 27, 1845, Charlotte Heald, d. June 15, 1851. Ch. *George P.*<sup>2</sup> *Fred.*<sup>2</sup> *Frank E.*<sup>2</sup>

*Benjamin*<sup>2</sup> son of John,<sup>5</sup> m. Nov. 28, 1844, Lucy Barnard. He d. May 24, 1873; she d. Jan. 4, 1877. Ch. *Catherine A.* d. young. *John Adams*<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 27, 1847, m. Annie Webb. *Mary Lyon*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 6, 1850, spent some years as a teacher in Smyrna. *William Barnard*<sup>2</sup> d. young. *h Benjamin Irving*<sup>2</sup> b. April 11, 1855. *Lucy Fitch*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *Frederick Thurman*<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 18, 1860, m. Grace W. Conant. *Anna Burnham*,<sup>2</sup> d. an infant.

*Cyrus Andrew*<sup>2</sup> son of Cyrus,<sup>6</sup> m. Feb. 2, 1885, Anna M. Phillips. Ch. *Phillips Ward*<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 28, 1886. *Dorothy*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 11, 1889.

*Benjamin Irving*<sup>2</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>6</sup> m. June 2, 1881, Florence Noyes. Ch. *Irving Noyes*,<sup>2</sup> *Lucy Simonds*. *Nathaniel Molepene*<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 25, 1889.

*Charles P.*<sup>2</sup> son of Larkin P.<sup>6</sup> m. Sept. 2, 1855, Anna M. Fish, who d. Sept. 18, 1877; m. 2d, Nov. 20, 1879, Mrs. Nancy McFarland. Ch. *George Albert*<sup>2</sup> b. and d. 1856. *Corie Susie*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 30, 1859, m. Walter Cowin. *Corey Adelle*,<sup>2</sup> b. and d. 1868.

*Henry L.*<sup>2</sup> son of Larkin P.<sup>6</sup> m. Jan. 10, 1861, Lucy A. Wellington. Ch. *Fannie L.* b. Oct. 10, 1864. *Frank Wellington*<sup>2</sup> b. April 10, 1872.

*John F.*<sup>2</sup> son of Larkin P.<sup>6</sup> m. Dec. 6, 1870, Catherine E. Reed. Ch. *Marshall Reed*<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 18, 1872.

*Grovesnor A.*<sup>2</sup> son of Larkin P.<sup>6</sup> m. Sept. 1882, Louisa A. Northrop of Vermont. Ch. *Charles L.*<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 5, 1884. *William L.*<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 6, 1887. (See military history.)

**PARKER, William**, son of Levi and Hannah (Geddings) Parker, b. in Lunenburg, Aug. 7, 1813, m. May 7, 1837, Mary E. (dau. of Warren Maynard and Nancy Hadden), who was b. in Sudbury, Jan. 23, 1817. They settled in Bedford in 1842. He d. Feb. 18, 1889. Ch. *William L.* b. May 14, 1838. *Albert F.* b. Sept. 20, 1840, d. Feb. 24, 1873. *Adelaide E.* b. Mar. 19, 1843, d. Sept. 26, 1854. *Lillie H.* b. April 28, 1846, d. Nov. 16, 1889. *Minnie E.* b. May 28, 1853. *George M.* b. July 24, 1856.

**POLLARD, Oliver,**<sup>1</sup> m. Feb. 1735-6, Hannah Hill. Ch. *Oliver*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1736-7, and others.

**Oliver,**<sup>2</sup> m. 1777, Mary Hill. (See epitaphs.) Ch. *Oliver*,<sup>3</sup> June, m. Thomas Smith, d. 1868. *Obed*,<sup>4</sup> *Mary*, m. Rev. William Gragg.

There were others of the name. Walter was a tavern keeper, q.v. The family is now extinct.

**PORTER, Joseph,** m. Bethiah Batchelder of Danvers, and settled here. (See Homesteads, old sites.) He d. July 13, 1770. Ch. *Molly*, b. April 23, 1743. *Bethiah*, b. Nov. 18, 1744. *Israel*, b. Sept. 2, 1746, settled in Cambridge as a tavern keeper. *Joseph*, b. Sept. 6, 1748, d. Aug. 14, 1770. *Jemima*, b. July 8, 1750. *Desire*, b. Feb. 11, 1752, m. Abraham Brown of Brookline. *Edith*, b. Mar. 1, 1754, m. William Caldwell; m. 2d, — Pollard. *Sarah*, b. Sept. 29, 1756, m. David Woolley. *h William*, b. July 22, 1759. *Lydia*, b. Sept. 15, 1761, m. Benjamin Trask of Lexington. *Oliver*, b. Dec. 2, 1765, m. Simon Hadley of Lexington.

**William**, m. May 4, 1779, Lucy Kibbey; m. 2d, Rebecca Page, widow of Jonathan Wilson. He d. Feb. 26, 1829; 2d wife d. Jan. 27, 1834. Ch. *William*, d. at sea. *Polly (Mary)* b. Sept. 28, 1781, m. Stephen Bacon. *Lucy*, b. Oct. 3, 1784, m. Samuel Sage. *Betsy*, b. July 1, 1786, m. Thomas Page. *h Asa*, b. —. *Joseph*, b. 1790. (See epitaph.) *Martha*, m. Bradley V. Bowers; m. 2d, Moses Simonds. *Sally*, m. Israel Porter Hadley. *Nancy*, m. Edward Flint of Concord. By 2d wife, *Rebecca P.* b. Nov. 15, 1798, m. Thompson Bacon, Jr.

**Asa**, m. June 17, 1817, Mary Mulliken of Concord, d. Dec. 25, 1825 (?). Ch. *Joseph Mulliken*, b. Nov. 24, 1819. *Mary Rebecca*, b. Aug. 25, 1821.

**PUTNAM, John,**<sup>1</sup> and wife, Priscilla, the immigrants, came from Bucks County, Eng., to Salem, about 1640. Three sons came with them. *Thomas*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1618, was grandfather of Maj.-Gen. Israel Putnam<sup>4</sup> of Connecticut. *Nathaniel*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1621, was grandfather of Israel<sup>4</sup> of Bedford (see Homesteads, and epitaphs), who m. July 22, 1722, Sarah, dau. of Jonathan Bacon. *Israel*,<sup>3</sup> b. Mar. 20, 1722-3, m. Sarah Hutchinson, had 5 ch. *Benjamin*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 2, 1725, m. Eunice Rea; m. 2d, Rebecca Farley, had 1 ch. *Jonathan*,<sup>5</sup> b. July 16, 1727, m. Hannah Melvin of Concord, had Mary, b. 1750.

**Jonas**, of Roxbury, m. Mar. 14, 1811, Hannah Evans. (See Samuel Hartwell homestead.) He d. Mar. 18, 1818. She m. 2d, Moses Page, and d. Aug. 8, 1849. Ch. *Jonas*, b. Aug. 23, 1811, m. Emeline Tenny. He d. May 30, 1868; She d. Nov. 27, 1880. *Samuel Hartwell*, b. 1815. *Lucy Desire*, b. 1817.

**William A.** m. July 2, 1846, Mary Ann Smith of Westford and settled in Bedford as a tavern keeper. He d. Mar. 1871. Ch. *Mary Augusta*, b. Oct. 24, 1860, m. Wallace G. Webber.

Mrs. Mary A. Putnam was the donor of the clock in the church tower.

**REED, William** and Mabel, were the immigrant ancestors who embarked from England in the "Defence," July 4, 1635, and reached New England Oct. 6 of the same year. They brought three children with them, viz., — George, aged six years, Ralph, aged five years, and "Justice" or Justus, aged eighteen months (according to Savage). They first settled at Dorchester, and in 1639 went to Scituate,

where he was constable in 1644. They firmly adhered to the rites of the church. He sent his wife from Scituate to Dorchester on horseback with an infant, Israel, to be baptized in 1644. In 1648 he purchased a farm of sixty acres in Woburn. They soon returned to England, where he died at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1656. He left a will, and Oliver Cromwell made his wife Mabel executrix on "the last day of October, 1656." She returned to this country, and lived at Woburn with her children. She m. 2d, Henry Sumners of Woburn, and d. June 5, 1690.

William and Mabel had nine children, of whom *George*<sup>2</sup> m. Oct. 4, 1651, Elizabeth Gennison, who d. Feb. 26, 1665. He m. 2d, Hannah Rockwell. He d. Feb. 21, 1706, aged 77 years.

**William**,<sup>3</sup> seventh child of *George*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 22, 1662, was a "captain" and a prominent citizen of Lexington, and lived on Bedford road. He m. May 24, 1686, Abigail Kendall of Woburn. She had extra fingers and toes, and from that blood the excrescence has appeared in recent generations of some branches of the family. He d. May 12, 1718; she d. Oct. 12, 1734. Ch. *Abigail*, b. May 29, 1687, m. Jonathan Fiske, and settled in Sudbury.

**h William**,<sup>4</sup> b. July 18, 1693. *Mary*, b. April 8, 1695, m. Dea. John Stone, d. Oct. 1, 1772. *Benjamin*,<sup>4</sup> b. Oct. 22, 1696, m. Rebecca Stone. *Samuel*,<sup>4</sup> d. young. *Joshua*,<sup>4</sup> b. June 20, 1702, m. Elizabeth Russell. *Hepsibah*, b. Dec. 10, 1705, m. Daniel Tidd.

**William**,<sup>4</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> "Esq. Reed," was prominent in town and church of Lexington, was captain of militia, and was in the French war in 1755. He m. about 1719 Sarah, dau. of John Poulter, and d. Feb. 11, 1778; she d. Nov. 25, 1769. Ch. *William*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 1, 1720, m. Abigail Stone. *Samuel*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 4, 1722, m. Eunice Stone. *Sarah*, b. June 3, 1725, m. Benjamin Brown. *Mary*, b. May 10, 1728, m. William Bowman. *h Oliver*,<sup>5</sup> b. Mar. 25, 1730. *h John*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 28, 1731. *Hammon*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 28, 1734, m. Betty Simonds. *Eliot*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 28, 1737, m. Joseph Bridge. *Hannah*, b. Oct. 21, 1740, m. John Bridge. *Nathan*, b. Nov. 9, 1743, m. Mary Page.

**Oliver**,<sup>5</sup> son of William,<sup>4</sup> m. April 11, 1754, Sarah Bridge, and d. Sept. 18, 1811. Ch. *h Oliver*,<sup>6</sup> b. Dec. 11, 1755. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 4, 1757. *h Reuben*,<sup>6</sup> b. Dec. 21, 1759. (See Homesteads.) *Mary*, b. Sept. 12, 1763, m. Abner Ball.

**Oliver**,<sup>6</sup> son of Oliver,<sup>5</sup> m. May 18, 1786, Betty Abbott, who d. Oct. 22, 1802; m. 2d, Sept. 2, 1810, Mary Fitch, who d. May 31, 1812. He d. Aug. 15, 1837. Ch. *h Nathan Oliver*,<sup>7</sup> *Mary Elizabeth*, twins, b. Feb. 6, 1812. *Mary Elizabeth* m. Jarvis Mansfield.

**Reuben**,<sup>6</sup> son of Oliver,<sup>5</sup> settled in South Bedford on farm now owned by C. L. Wait. He m. Mary Wilson, and d. Feb. 1, 1815; she d. July 14, 1843. Ch. *h Lot*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 19, 1792. *Mary*, b. Sept. 19, 1793, d. 1814. *Sally*, b. Dec. 3, 1795, d. Mar. 12, 1870. *Isaac*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 24, 1798. *h Jesse*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 31, 1800. *Louisa*, b. Feb. 22, 1802, m. Elbridge Bacon. *Betsy*, d. young. *Hiram*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 31, 1808. *Betsy*, b. Jan. 6, 1811, m. April 26, 1835, Rodney Clement; m. 2d, Nathaniel C. Cutler.

**Nathan Oliver**,<sup>7</sup> son of Oliver,<sup>6</sup> had the homestead, where he spent his life, q.v. He m. Dec. 18, 1834, Martha S. Fitch, who died Mar. 22, 1841; m. 2d, Nov. 10, 1843, Mrs. Nancy Fitch (widow of Abel). He d. April 27, 1865. Ch. *Martha Fitch*, b. Mar. 2, 1841, m. William Thomas, of

Gladbrook, Iowa; by 2d wife, *Mary Caroline*, b. April 6, 1845. *h Nathan Henry*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 25, 1848.

**Nathan Henry**,<sup>6</sup> son of Nathan O.<sup>5</sup> m. Clara Parker of Billerica. Ch. *Nathan Parker*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 13, 1874. *Mary B.* b. June 7, 1877.

**Lol**,<sup>7</sup> m. Lucretia Winslip. He d. Sept. 25, 1821; she d. Feb. 24, 1871. Ch. *Lucia U.* m. Enos Morgan. *Emily A.* m. Charles P. Robbins.

**Jesse**,<sup>7</sup> son of Renben,<sup>6</sup> m. Oct. 28, 1810, Ruth Pool. He d. 1830; she d. 1874. Ch. *Amanda*, b. May 12, 1820, d. Sept. 15, 1840. *Melina*, b. Feb. 5, 1823, d. July 18, 1844. *Mary*, d. young. *Iraam*,<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 2, 1828, m. July 8, 1880, Jennie M. Adams. *Lizora J.* b. Mar. 7, 1835, m. Albert Buttrick.

**Renben**,<sup>4</sup> b. and d. 1840.

**John**,<sup>3</sup> son of William<sup>4</sup> and Sarah Poulter, m. Jan. 18, 1753, Ruhamah, dau. of Daniel and Eliot Brown. He d. Nov. 20, 1805; she d. Jan. 6, 1708. Ch. *Rahamah*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 11, 1753, m. John Lane, 3d. *h John*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 9, 1758. *Grace*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 20, 1760, d. Sept. 09, 1778. *h Riggs*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 14, 1762. *Liza*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 22, 1764, d. Aug. 24, 1780. *h Paul*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 18, 1767. (See Domine Mance, in Homesteads.) *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 8, 1766, m. Joseph Colburn.

**John**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 1, 1785, Hannah Merriam, dau. of John.<sup>2</sup> He d. 1803; she d. 1830. Ch. *Anna*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 2, 1787, d. Nov. 18, 1808. *h Otis*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 27, 1791. *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 6, 1795, m. — Swain, d. Mar. 24, 1823. *John*,<sup>2</sup> b. April 1, 1798, d. May 13, 1810.

Hannah Reed, wife of John,<sup>2</sup> gave the principal part of the communion service to the church connected with the Unitarian Congregational society, and the "Back Communion" to the town.

**Roger**,<sup>2</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> had a share of the homestead, q.v., and m. Nov. 15, 1790, Sarah Welber. He d. June 8, 1814; she d. Feb. 8, 1810. Ch. *Sarah*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 8, 1797, m. Alford Fitch. *Liza*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 9, 1801, m. Charles O. Gragg.

**Otis**,<sup>2</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Emily Winslip. He d. 1820; she d. 1831. Ch. *Anna W.* b. Mar. 2, 1810, m. Thomas Stiles. *h Maryann*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 21, 1824, m. Sylvanus Lawrence.

**Poulter**,<sup>2</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Sept. 1, 1780, Molly Hartwell, and settled in Littleton. Had 6 ch. — Their son *John P.*,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 22, 1805, m. April 4, 1833, Nancy Whitecomb, and settled in Bedford. After twenty-seven years they returned to Littleton, remained three years, and then settled in Lexington. John P. Reed was representative from Bedford in 1841 and 1843, and a man of influence and stability of character. Ch. *John*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1772, d. young. *Anna J.* b. Oct. 4, 1833, m. Levi W. Welber. *John Morton*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 6, 1844, resides at Lexington.

David Reed,<sup>2</sup> a descendant from William<sup>3</sup> and Mabel, was a tavern keeper, and prominent in military and town affairs, m. Jan. 6, 1772, Hannah Raymond, who d. April 20, 1700; m. 2d, 1791, Abigail Simonds, who d. Sept. 1, 1803; m. 3d, Mar. 28, 1804, Martha Simonds, who d. Jan. 31, 1834. He d. Jan. 6, 1832. Ch. *John*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1772, d. 1840. *Polly*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1777, m. Jonathan Lawrence. *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1784, m. Joseph Colburn. *h David*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1787. By 2d wife, *h Benjamin*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1793. *Abby*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1794, m. William Colburn. By 3d wife, *Susannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. 1800, m. Albert Bacon.

**David**,<sup>2</sup> son of David,<sup>2</sup> m. April 23, 1812, Abigail Dan-

forth. Ch. *Abigail*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 3, 1813. *Hannah R.* b. Jan. 14, 1823.

**Benjamin**,<sup>2</sup> son of David,<sup>2</sup> m. April 7, 1817, Sally P. Danforth. He d. Nov. 2, 1838; she d. June 15, 1869. Ch. *h William D.* b. Dec. 16, 1817. *h David*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 28, 1819. *Lucy Pollard*,<sup>2</sup> b. Nov. 21, 1825, m. Eldridge Hartwell. *George W.* b. and d. 1828. *Sarah R.* b. April 1833, d. Oct. 7, 1846.

**William D.**,<sup>2</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> m. April 20, 1843, Lydia S. Butters of Burlington.

**David**,<sup>2</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> m. April 15, 1848, Sarah Butters of Burlington. She d. Dec. 7, 1880. Ch. *George Fred*,<sup>2</sup> m. Fanny Mason. *Ada May*,<sup>2</sup> b. and d. 1863.

**RICE, David**,<sup>2</sup> son of David and Sarah (Brown) Rice, b. Jan. 28, 1782, in Langdon, N.H. He came when quite young to Massachusetts, and learned the trade of a blacksmith, after which he settled in Bedford and followed that occupation. (See Industries.) He m. Mabel Willis, who d. Oct. 30, 1820; m. 2d, Jan. 31, 1822, Mrs. Nancy Robbins, dau. of Jonathan and Rebecca Page. He d. Jan. 1840; she d. April 8, 1855. Ch. *Sarah*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 22, 1811, m. Oliver A. Wilson. *David*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 13, 1813, m. Alexander Mann. By 2d wife, *Harriet*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 14, 1823, m. Stephen Hull.

**ROBBINS, Parley**,<sup>2</sup> m. Jan. 23, 1814, Nancy Wilson. Ch. *Charles P.* m. Emily A. Reed, d. Sept. 6, 1870. *Ann*,<sup>2</sup> m. Frederick Bacon, d. June 10, 1882.

**ROBINSON, William**,<sup>2</sup> resided on a farm of 200 acres in Cambridge. He was one of the original petitioners for the separation of "Newtowne" from Cambridge in the year 1678. He m. Elizabeth —, and d. about 1693. Ch. *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. at Concord, July 13, 1671 (called Ann). She d. in Cambridge, Oct. 5, 1672. *William*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 16, 1673. *Mary*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 7, 1676. *David*,<sup>2</sup> b. May 23, 1678, "lame and helpless in 1695." *Samuel*,<sup>2</sup> and *h Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> twins, b. April 20, 1680. They were all living, except Hannah, when the will was probated in 1693.

**Jonathan**,<sup>2</sup> son of William,<sup>2</sup> m. Ruth —. He d. 1753; she d. April 25, 1750. Ch. *h Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 21, 1706-7. *Ruth*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 20, 1708-9. *Abigail*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 4, 1710-11, m. Nathaniel Bacon of Lexington. *James*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 30, 1715, m. Anna Triack. *Liza*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 29, 1718, m. Caleb Simonds. *Hannah*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 8, 1720-21.

Jonathan Robinson<sup>2</sup> is thought to have m. Ruth Cutler of Cambridge, dau. of Richard, in whose will, made in 1693, is the following: "For the two Robinsons, grandsons to the deceased." (This was found in papers left by Jonathan Robinson.) Isaac Powers of Cambridge sold to Jonathan Robinson of Cambridge, weaver, in 1700, a lot of land at Cambridge farms (Lexington). Jonathan was tithing-man in 1735, and in 1744 was on a committee to "dignify and seat the meeting-house."

**Jonathan**,<sup>2</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>2</sup> m. Elizabeth —. He d. 1748. Ch. *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 20, 1732. *Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 20, 1733. *h Jacob*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 3, 1738-9. *Submit*, bap. July 17, 1743.

**Jacob**,<sup>2</sup> son of Jonathan,<sup>2</sup> m. Elizabeth Draper. They were admitted to church Mar. 21, 1775. He d. June 18, 1776; she d. Sept. 24, 1830. Ch. *Jacob*,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 28, 1760, m. Hannah Simonds. *Elizabeth*,<sup>2</sup> d. young. *h Jesse*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 14, 1767. *Jonathan*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 20, 1769, was twice married. *Rebsey*,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 20, 1772, m. White of Watertown. *Anna*,<sup>2</sup> b. June 28, 1774, m. Gardner of Cambridge. *Nathan*,<sup>2</sup> d. young.

**Jesse**,<sup>2</sup> son of Jacob,<sup>2</sup> m. Nov. 21, 1793, Rebecca, dau.

of Samuel Tidd of Acton, who was at the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill. He d. 1843; she d. 1863. Ch. *Rebecca*, b. Feb. 14, 1795, m. Diar Quimby. h *Jesse*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 4, 1797. *Sarah*, b. Aug. 29, 1800, m. Diar Quimby, and lived in Charlestown, had several ch., d. 1871. *Anne*, b. Aug. 6, 1804, m. Nathaniel Paine of Hyannis. Had one son. *Eliza Mary*. h *Charles*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 10, 1816. *Martha*. (For Eliza, Mary, and Martha see epitaphs. See also homesteads.)

*Jesse*,<sup>6</sup> an old-time schoolmaster, m. Asenath Buttrick of Pelham, N.H. He d. Nov. 1876. Had 8 ch., of whom Jesse Orin<sup>7</sup> resides at Mount Vernon, N.H., and has two sons and two daughters. Edwin<sup>7</sup> resides at Littleton, and has two sons and one daughter. He is deacon of the Baptist church in that place. Charles Henry<sup>7</sup> volunteered for three years in the rebellion, and died in the service.

*Charles*,<sup>6</sup> son of *Jesse*,<sup>6</sup> m. Sept. 1840, Sophia Billings of Acton. She d. July 2, 1882. Ch. *Ellen S.* b. June 11, 1842, d. Mar. 31, 1887. h *Charles F.* b. Sept. 15, 1844. h *Walter B.* b. Sept. 20, 1846.

Charles Robinson<sup>6</sup> lived at the homestead in Bedford

*Walter Billings*,<sup>7</sup> son of *Charles*,<sup>6</sup> m. June 5, 1870, Ella M. Bullard of Sherborn. She d. Mar. 25, 1872. He m. 2d, Clara F. Mason of Vermont. Ch. *Ada Sophia*, b. Mar. 5, 1871. *Charles Frederick*,<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 15, 1875. *Ella F.* b. Nov. 3, 1877. *Ethel*, b. Dec. 1880. *Frank Billings*,<sup>8</sup> b. Dec. 1885.

Walter Billings Robinson<sup>7</sup> removed from Bedford to Natick in 1867, where he is a coal and lumber merchant and a man of prominence.

*ROWE, Moses E.* b. in Candia, N.H., Feb. 21, 1823, m. Nov. 27, 1850, Rose A. Morse, b. in Maine, Nov. 27, 1824. Ch. *Emma J.* b. Mar. 2, 1852, d. Oct. 31, 1856. *Minnie E.* b. Nov. 24, 1853, m. John Brainerd. *Frank H.* b. Feb. 12, 1856, m. Ada Champney. *Fannie B.* b. Nov. 23, 1865, m. A. Elmer Blake. *Hattie L.* b. July 15, 1868, m. Dana B. Clark.

Moses E. Rowe settled in Bedford on the Ephraim Jones farm. He has occupied many positions of trust in town; was chosen a deacon of the Church of Christ, Mar. 29, 1886, which office he now fills.

*SAGE, Samuel*,<sup>6</sup> b. in England, came to Bedford in 1800. He was a representative of the sixth generation, in each of which the oldest son was Samuel. Samuel<sup>4</sup> was b. Feb. 6, 1718. Samuel<sup>5</sup> was b. 1752, m. Mary Cole. Their tombstones in the village burial-ground, in England, read thus: "Sacted to the memory of Samuel Sage, late of Dundry, who died Feb. 27, 1830, aged 84 years. Also Mary, his wife, who died Sept. 1, 1834, aged 80 years." Samuel<sup>5</sup> and Mary Cole had 13 ch., of whom Samuel<sup>6</sup> b. "Friday morning, half past one, Dec. 15, 1775," was the immigrant. He m. Jan. 1, 1815, Lucy Porter of Bedford. He d. April 8, 1862; she d. Oct. 23, 1865. Ch. *Mary*, b. May 19, 1816. *Samuel*,<sup>7</sup> d. young. h *Samuel*,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 28, 1826.

Samuel Sage<sup>6</sup> was a wheelwright by trade, and followed the business in the village. The landed estate in England was large, but the family possession for hundreds of years was broken by sale after the death of Samuel<sup>5</sup>.

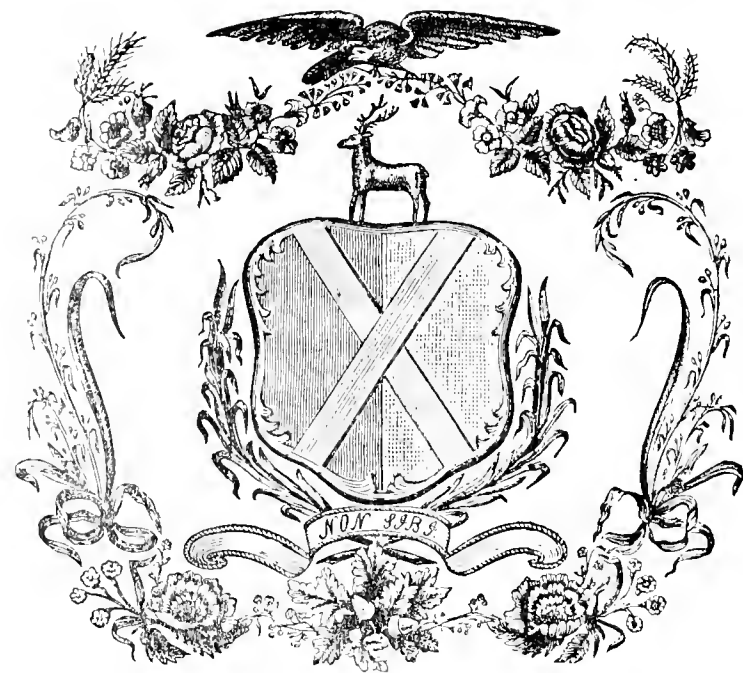
*Samuel*,<sup>7</sup> m. Feb. 12, 1862, Martha M. Hill. He d. Nov. 13, 1877. Ch. *Mary Hill*, b. Mar. 1, 1863, d. July 25,

1887. *Samuel*,<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 27, 1869, d. April 3, 1888.

Samuel Sage<sup>7</sup> was often in town office, and was a land surveyor of acknowledged ability. He entered the Union army in July, 1864, for one hundred days, but was confined in hospitals most of the time on account of illness. While there he was joined by his wife, who did faithful hospital service in care of her husband and in the relief of his sick and wounded comrades. He removed to Billerica in 1869, where he died in 1877.

Martha (Hill) Sage was a graduate of Woburn High School, and a successful teacher for years. The inscription on the soldiers' monument of Billerica was prepared by her. She was the successful one of seven who competed for the honor.

Mary Hill Sage graduated at the Salem Normal School,



until 1867, when he removed with his family to Natick. He was a faithful man in the town and church, and a member of the school committee for a series of years.

*Charles F.*,<sup>7</sup> son of *Charles*,<sup>6</sup> m. April 10, 1869, Cornelia F. Clark of Gorham, Me. Ch. *Ernest Frederick*,<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 5, 1870, a physician in Maynard. *Edward Henry*,<sup>8</sup> b. June 12, 1873, d. July 27, 1877. *Cora Belle*, b. Sept. 14, 1875, d. April 5, 1879. *Charles Walter*,<sup>8</sup> b. June 3, 1878. Twin boys, b. May 27, 1880, d. at birth.

Charles F. Robinson<sup>7</sup> resided in the West for about nine years immediately succeeding his marriage, but removed to Natick in February, 1878, and later to Marlboro, where he is a successful business man. He is deacon of the Orthodox Congregational church. (See military history.)



after completing a course at the Howe School in Billerica, and was the youngest in years, but oldest in service, as teacher in the Emerson School, Concord, when she died.

Samuel Sage<sup>a</sup> was a graduate of the Howe School, and was a student in Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., when he died. He was the last to bear the Christian name in a family that is traced back eight hundred years at the family seat at Chew Magna, near Bristol, Eng.

**SIMONDS.** The Simonds family of this town originated in Woburn. The name first appears in the records of that town in 1644. The date of their arrival in this country is unknown. "William Simonds<sup>1</sup> of Woburn m. Jan. 28, 1644, Judith, ~~1644~~ of James Hayward." It is quite probable that William<sup>1</sup> of Woburn was descended from William and Alice of England, to whom there is a memorial in the cathedral church, Winchester, Eng., with the following inscription:—

Here lieth William Symonds, Gentleman,  
Of Winchester, twice Mayor & Alderman.  
Alice, his wife, lies buried by his side  
The one in June, in July the other died  
On the 15th day, 1600, Shee;  
On the 25th day, 1600, Hee  
His merit doth inherit Life and Fame;  
For whilst this city stands, Symonds his name,  
In poor mens Hearts shall never be forgotten;  
For Poorer Prayers rise when flesh has rotted!

Members of the early generations of Simonds became associated with Bedford families through marriage, but established families do not appear here until the opening of the nineteenth century. Benjamin of Woburn, of the fifth generation, with sons Benjamin and Zebedee, settled in the south part of the town in 1875, and engaged in the manufacture of shoes.

**Benjamin** bought a portion of the Thomas Woolley farm in 1812. He m. Oct. 27, 1812, Mary, dau. of John and Mary (Smith) Simonds of Leominster, who d. Dec. 8, 1817; m. 2d, Aug. 11, 1818, Elizabeth Butler of Leominster. He d. July 31, 1830; she d. Nov. 22, 1834. Ch. *Charles*, b. Jan. 5, 1814, m. Cummings F. Davis of Harvard, *Mary Ann*, b. Nov. 22, 1815, m. Elijah C. Whitecomb of Fitchburg, d. Aug. 1891. By 2d wif., *John*, b. July 17, 1816, m. Eben Cheney of Royalston. *Moses*, b. May 20, 1821, m. Sylvester Sawyer of Royalston. *Judith* d. young. *Judith*, b. Sept. 7, 1825.

Benjamin Simonds<sup>2</sup> was a schoolmaster, an extensive shoe manufacturer, and a man of influence for some years. He removed from Bedford to Clarksville, Mo., where he died.

**Zebedee**,<sup>3</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> m. June 25, 1807, Amittai Webber of Bedford. He d. Sept. 26, 1820; she d. Feb. 20, 1853. Ch. *John W. Thayer*,<sup>4</sup> b. Jan. 14, 1808, d. Aug. 28, 1870. *h. Geo.*,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 15, 1810. *Amittai*, b. April 7, 1812, m. Nov. 1, 1832, Daniel Flagg, d. Mar. 1887. *William*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 2, 1814, d. June 8, 1838. *h. Henry*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1817, *Harriet*, b. Nov. 6, 1818, d. Feb. 28, 1843. *h. Edward*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 28, 1820. *Recharb*, b. July 23, 1821, m. Mar. 31, 1842, Hiram Whitford of New Hampshire. *Zebedee*,<sup>7</sup> d. an infant.

Zebedee Simonds<sup>6</sup> came to Bedford with his father in 1805, was a shoe manufacturer, and a man who enjoyed the confidence and respect of his townsmen. He was chosen deacon in the church, Jan. 17, 1820, but eight months before his death. A memorial window to his memory was placed in the meeting-house of the Trinitarian Congregational society, by his descendants, in 1886.

He was possessed of a good musical talent, which he used in the service of song in the choir of the church.

John Webber Simonds,<sup>7</sup> son of Zebedee,<sup>6</sup> enjoyed but limited advantages for education, but was a man of much ability. He was representative from his native town to the General Court in 1844 and 1852, and a member of the convention for revising the constitution in 1853, during the deliberations of which he was often called to the chair. He filled many positions of trust in the town. He gave some attention to civil engineering, and was prominent in laying out the new cemetery. His good taste and skill are seen in the excellent arrangement of those grounds. He devoted much time to the study of the early history of his native town, and left manuscripts of value pertaining to the early families which have been of benefit to the writer of this volume.

**George**,<sup>7</sup> son of Zebedee,<sup>6</sup> m. April 10, 1835, Ann, dau. of Joseph and Susanna (French) Jaquith of Billerica. He d. Oct. 26, 1876; she d. Oct. 9, 1870. Ch. *h. Merton*,<sup>8</sup> b. June 17, 1837. *Laura Ann*, b. July 9, 1842, m. Nov. 29, 1866, James Jones.

George Simonds<sup>7</sup> was a prominent citizen of the town, was often in town office, and enjoyed the confidence of the entire community until his death.

**Henry**,<sup>7</sup> son of Zebedee,<sup>6</sup> m. Nov. 10, 1848, Jane Lewis, settled in Woburn, d. 1871. Ch. *Clara Josephine*, b. Nov. 2, 1849. *Emma Fanny*, b. July 30, 1852.

**Edward**,<sup>7</sup> son of Zebedee,<sup>6</sup> m. June 13, 1844, Mary Tidd, and settled in Woburn, where he has been often in town office. Ch. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Feb. 24, 1857.

**Merton**,<sup>8</sup> son of George,<sup>7</sup> a skillful painter, and a justice of the peace, m. Eliza Porter Webber. Ch. *M. Adelle*, b. Aug. 23, 1861, d. July 20, 1870.

**Eli**, a prominent citizen of Lexington, descendant from the immigrant William, located in Bedford, with son, William Henry, who m. Jennie F. Garty of Concord. She d. Mar. 20, 1891. Ch. *Frank H.* b. April 5, 1878.

**SKELTON** or **SKILTON**. Several of the name have lived in town, probably all descendants of Rev. Samuel of Salem.

**Daize**, m. June 19, 1770, Ruth Hartwell. Had several ch. b. in this town, and others b. in Woburn. Of these, *Antony* m. Mary Hodgman of Carlisle, and settled on her homestead, where son George S. lived, died, and is represented by three sons.

**Elias**, m. Dec. 2, 1830, Louisa Hartwell, who d. July 2, 1830; m. 2d, Cynthia Stearns. He d. July 21, 1887; she d. 1891. Ch. *Samuel*, d. an infant. *Mary Louisa*, b. Oct. 5, 1833, m. Reuben Lane.

**Elijah** (Capt), m. Sarah —. He d. Jan. 30, 1852; she d. Dec. 31, 1873. Ch. *Elijah*, b. Mar. 27, 1816. *Sarah*, b. Oct. 31, 1818, d. Feb. 4, 1852. *Edwin*, b. Sept. 28, 1820, d. April 11, 1849. *Emily*, b. and d. 1822. *Emily*, b. July 4, 1823, m. — Kimball of Woburn. *William*, b. Jan. 16, 1826.

Mrs. Sarah Skelton and Mrs. Emily Kimball each gave legacies to the Church of Christ connected with the Trinitarian society of the town, and a tablet to their memory is seen in the house of worship.

**George C.** purchased the Jacob Gragg farm, and settled here in May, 1883. His line of descent from Rev. Samuel of Salem is Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Thomas,<sup>4</sup> John,<sup>5</sup> b. 1744, m. 1768, Joanna Johnson, d. 1821. John,<sup>6</sup> b. 1771, m. 1809, Sally Jaques of Wilmington, d. in Charlestown, 1824.

George,<sup>7</sup> b. 1812, m. Caroline Curtis of Stockbridge, Mass. George C.<sup>8</sup> b. April 28, 1838, m. April 28, 1863, Annie G. L., dau. of Charles Gilman of Somerville. Ch. *Annie G. L.* b. and d. July, 1864. *Edward Jared*,<sup>9</sup> b. June 14, 1865. *Alice Gordon*, b. June 8, 1868. *Walter Elliot*,<sup>9</sup> b. Aug. 31, 1870. *George Ashby*,<sup>9</sup> b. Dec. 9, 1872. *Florence Lowell*, b. Nov. 6, 1874. *Caroline Isbell*, b. Oct. 5, 1880. *Annie Gilman*, b. Dec. 5, 1884.

George C. Skilton, with his father, began the manufacture of pickles at Somerville in 1831, and is still engaged in that business, under the firm name of Skilton & Foote. The farm of 100 acres is stocked with thoroughbred cattle, and conducted by his son, Edward J.

**SMITH, John**, settled here in 1838. He was from the south shore of Massachusetts, and was probably descended from John of Plymouth, who had children there whose marriages are recorded between 1649 and 1650. Our John was the 8th ch. of Benjamin and Sarah (Petersen) of Duxbury, b. Jan. 4, 1792. The generation is uncertain, but probably the fifth. He m. 1817, Mercy Tilden of Marshfield, who d. Oct. 25, 1820; m. 2d, 1821, Bethiah Rogers of Marshfield. He d. Aug. 8, 1863; she d. May 14, 1878. Ch. *Lucy Devo*, b. July 11, 1819, m. Silas F. Wild of Medford. By 2d wife, *Elizabeth*, b. Aug. 26, 1822, m. Moses F. Brown. *John Allen*,<sup>9</sup> b. Feb. 4, 1824. *George Henry*,<sup>9</sup> b. Sept. 19, 1825.

John Smith was of a seafaring family, and followed the sea in early life, sailing under his brother, Capt. Jacob Smith, who commanded the ship that brought the first Brazil nuts to the United States. John was in South America (aged about twelve years) when his mother died. During the French war (previous to the war of 1812) his brother's ship was captured and burned, and the crew taken prisoners. John, with three hundred others, was confined in the hold of a brig, which was so low studded that he could not stand upright. His possessions consisted of a pair of duck trousers, a guernsey frock, and five doubloons concealed in his stockings. The fare of the prisoners was "horse bean" soup, damaged rice, and bread. Their allowance of water was one pint a day per man. The imprisonment of John Smith was during the time when the English impressed American sailors, which caused the war of 1812. When liberated he walked four hundred miles to reach home, begging his way. He started in business in Boston, on Codman's Wharf, where Quincey Market now stands. His business was supplying ships' stores. Later, with George Merriam of Brighton, he formed the firm of Smith & Merriam, dealers in West India goods, at No. 21 Long Wharf. In 1828 he kept the Half-way House between Boston and Plymouth. It was situated in West Scituate, near the Hingham line. He bought the Pollard farm in Bedford in 1838, and settled there, where he completed his life.

**John Allen**,<sup>6</sup> son of John,<sup>5</sup> m. Martha Gleason of Medford. Ch. *Anna Winslow*, b. April 2, 1851, m. Francis C. Thier. *Horace Allen*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 12, 1853. *Sarah Peterson*, b. June 14, 1857, m. George M. Weston. *Harry Mansing*,<sup>7</sup> b. Dec. 2, 1862.

**George H.**<sup>6</sup> son of John,<sup>5</sup> m. Hannah E. Hartwell, of Bedford. He d. Oct. 1889; she d. Mar. 1890.

**SPALDING.** Those of the name in this town, as far as known, descended from Edward, one of the original settlers of Chelmsford in 1654. Sampson of the fifth generation settled in Billerica, very near the Bedford line, and

was identified with the church and society here, where the family burial place is seen. He was b. Mar. 1, 1775, m. Mar. 27, 1804, Susanna Skinner, and d. Feb. 19, 1835. Of 10 ch. 3 settled in Iowa. *Benjamin Adams*, b. 1815, a graduate of Harvard College (1840) and of Andover Theological Seminary (1843), was one of the "Iowa Band" of eleven of his class who went to that territory as home missionaries. He was pastor at Ottumwa from 1851 to 1863, and d. there in 1867. He m. 1847, Ann Nichols Norris. *Martha Kebekeh*, b. 1819, m. 1851, James W. Norris of Ottumwa, where she still resides. She was a school teacher here at one time. *Andrew Josiah*, b. 1823, m. 1851, Elizabeth A. Brown of Concord, N. H., and d. at Ottumwa, 1860.

**Charles**, son of Ira and Joanna (Fletcher) of Chelmsford, b. Jan. 8, 1803, m. May 4, 1820, Elizabeth Wilson. He d. April 17, 1878. Ch. *Lewis*, b. June 10, 1828, m. Annie B. Cutler, d. June 11, 1870. *George* and *Augustus*, d. in infancy. *Caroline*, b. Jan. 13, 1839, d. Aug. 23, 1852.

Charles Spaulding came to Bedford in 1819, and learned the shoe business. He was a man of influence in the town and Unitarian church, of which he was a deacon for many years.

**SPRAGUE, John**, of military distinction, is the first of the name in town, and was a descendant, doubtless, of Nicholas of Billerica. He was b. April 26, 1750, and m. April 1, 1784, Phoebe Fitch. He d. Mar. 6, 1810; she d. Mar. 25, 1841. Ch. *Phoebe*, b. Aug. 14, 1784. *Sarah*, b. July 10, 1787, d. April 24, 1805. *John*, b. Oct. 15, 1788, d. May 25, 1805. *Lowell*, b. Mar. 6, 1791. *Rebecy*, b. Dec. 3, 1792, d. Sept. 27, 1822. *Mary*, b. Oct. 5, 1795, d. Nov. 24, 1840. *Susanna*, b. July 11, 1798, m. William Clark.

**STEARNS**, variously spelled.



"Arms. Or, a chevron between three crosses flory sable. Crest, a cock standing proper." This illustration, furnished by Henry A. Stearns, Lieutenant-Governor of Rhode Island, was originally taken from one belonging to the Manning family, descendants of Isaac Stearns.

"It is the same as that borne by families of the name of Sterne in the counties of Bucks, Cambridge, Hertford, and Norfolk, England; the same also as that borne by Richard

Sterne, Archbishop of York, who was descended from the Sternes of Nottinghamshire. It is probable that all the families of the name of Stearns in the United States are descended from three early immigrants,—viz., Isaac, or Charles, who settled in Watertown, or Nathaniel, who settled in Dedham."—*Bond*.

**Isaac**,<sup>1</sup> came to this country in 1630, probably with Gov. Winthrop, and settled in Watertown, near Mount Auburn. He was made freeman May 18, 1631, which is the earliest date of any such admission. (*Bond*.) He d. June 19, 1671; wife Mary d. April 2, 1677. Of their several ch. Isaac,<sup>2</sup> the fourth, b. Jan. 6, 1632–3, m. Sarah Beers, and settled in Lexington in 1660. He d. 1670. Their son, John,<sup>3</sup> b. 1675, m. April 26, 1699, Mary, or Mercy Davis of Concord. He is mentioned as a land owner in the description of the southern boundary of the town of Bedford in 1729. His dwelling was south of that known as Stephen Davis' estate. (See Homesteads.) He d. June 14, 1734, and is recorded thus: "Father of Zachariah, Eleazer, and Benjamin Stearns." From his will is the following: "Bequeath to my daughter Mercy Kendal all the right I have in a Molatto girl named Mary, now living with me." Zachariah,<sup>4</sup> son of John,<sup>3</sup> was a petitioner from the Concord side for the incorporation of Bedford, and was established in a home here. He m. Sarah, and had 6 ch. All soon disappear from the town.

**John**,<sup>2</sup> son of Isaac,<sup>1</sup> was a purchaser of the Dudley farm. One of his portions was fifty acres in the southwest corner, bounded by the river and Winthrop farm, which became the permanent Stearns homestead. He was probably born in Watertown in 1631, and became one of the earliest inhabitants of Billerica. He m. Sarah Mixer of Watertown. She d. June, 1650, the first death in Billerica, except an infant of Henry Jeffs. He m. 2d, 1656, Mary Lathrop of Barnstable. He d. Mar. 5, 1668–9. His son, John,<sup>3</sup> b. "2d week" May, 1654, was either the first or second child born in Billerica.

**John**,<sup>3</sup> m. Elizabeth Bigelow of Watertown, who d. April 18, 1694; he m. 2d, Joanna, widow of Jacob Parker, and dau. of Thomas Call of Malden. He d. Oct. 26, 1728; she d. Dec. 4, 1737. Their son, John,<sup>4</sup> b. Nov. 25, 1680.

*John Stearns*

m. Esther Johnson, dau. of Edward of Woburn, gr.-dau. of William Johnson, 1sq., and great gr.-dau. of Capt. Edward Johnson, author of "Wonder Working Providence of Zion's Savior in New England." They had several ch., of whom *Bond* says four settled in Lovewell, Me., where the father d. aged 86. His son, Joseph,<sup>5</sup> b. Jan. 20, 1731–2, m. Sarah, dau. of Uriah Abbott of Bedford. Their son, *Samuel*,<sup>6</sup> became the fourth minister of Bedford, q.v. John Stearns<sup>4</sup> deeded land, in Mar. 1702, to his son, *Edward*,<sup>5</sup>—the mill yard. This joined other real estate known as the Lieut. Edward Stearns homestead, which was set off to Bedford in 1706.

*Edward Stearns*

b. May 9, 1726, was the head of the family in Bedford. He m. May 9, 1755, Lucy, dau. of Thomas Wyman and

Rachel (Crosby), widow of Samuel Stearns. He d. June 11, 1793; she d. Nov. 28, 1802. (See epitaphs.) Ch. *Lucy*, b. Mar. 24, 1756, d. May 20, 1768. *Solomon*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 12, 1757. He was with his father at Concord, April 19, 1775, entered the army at Cambridge, and d. May 18, 1775. (See epitaph.) *Rachel*, b. Nov. 3, 1758, m. Dea. Moses Fitch of Bedford. *Edward*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1761, d. May 24, 1768. *Susanna*, b. Dec. 19, 1762, m. Nehemiah Wyman of Medford. Had 10 ch. *Alice*, b. Aug. 13, 1764, m. Moses Abbott, Jr.; m. 2d, Stephen Lane. *h Abner*,<sup>6</sup> b. July, 9, 1766. *Edward*,<sup>6</sup> b. June 25, 1768, m. Polly Jones of Bradford, who d. June 28, 1796; m. 2d, Nabby, her sister. He d. May, 1798, and she m. Rev. Ebenezer Hill of Munson, N.H. *h Elijah*,<sup>6</sup> b. May 2, 1770. *h Simeon*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 17, 1772.



ELIJAH WYMAN STEARNS.

**Elijah**,<sup>6</sup> son of Edward,<sup>5</sup> m. Dec. 30, 1802, Elizabeth (his cousin), dau. of Rev. Josiah Stearns of Epping, N.H. He d. April 10, 1831; she d. Sept. 25, 1862. (See Homesteads.) Ch. *Edward*,<sup>7</sup> b. and d. 1804. *Edward Josiah*,<sup>7</sup> b. and d. 1806. *Mary Elizabeth*, b. Oct. 31, 1807, d. July 12, 1818. *Edward Josiah*,<sup>7</sup> b. Feb. 24, 1810, graduated at Harvard College (1833), an Episcopal clergyman and an author, d. July, 1890. *Elijah Wyman*,<sup>7</sup> b. Jan. 8, 1813, graduated at Harvard College (1838), was a teacher for several years, and later a druggist in Bedford. *George O'F*, b. Aug. 30, 1815, a dentist in New Haven, Conn. *Samuel French*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 25, 1818, was a dentist in Boston, d. 1889.

**Simeon**,<sup>6</sup> son of Edward,<sup>5</sup> m. Sally Cole. He d. April 17, 1846; she d. Mar. 8, 1803. Ch. *Elbridge Wyman*,<sup>6</sup> b. April 22, 1803, m. Dec. 17, 1830, Ruthy Wright. He d. Dec. 1, 1876; she d. Oct. 31, 1884. *Lucy Minerva*, b. Sept. 6, 1805, m. Ezekiel W. Preston, d. May 5, 1884. *Sally Miranda*, b. May 12, 1808, m. Stephen H. Nichols, d. June 6, 1848.

*Abner Stearns*

son of Edward,<sup>5</sup> m. May 1, 1797, Anna, dau. of Jonathan Hill, who d. Oct. 22, 1807; he m. 2d, June 30, 1808, Mrs. Anna Estabrooks, widow of John, and dau. of Thomas Russell of West Cambridge. He d. Dec. 11, 1838; she d. Nov. 29, 1839. They were first interred in the old burial-ground, and later removed to Shawshine Cemetery, where a sarcophagus has been erected by a grateful posterity.

Ch. *Abner*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 1, 1798. *Mary Ann*, b. May 23, 1809, m. Jonas Monroe of Bedford. She was a prominent school teacher. *h Edward Harrison*,<sup>7</sup> b. Dec. 16, 1814. *h George Sullivan*,<sup>7</sup> b. May 17, 1816. *h Albert Thomas*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 23, 1821. *h Henry Augustus*,<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 23, 1825.

Mrs. Anna Estabrooks had one son, John B., whose name was changed to Russell. He was b. in 1801, and d. Mar. 11, 1891, at Indianapolis. He began the seed business in the store now occupied by Joseph Breck & Sons, Boston, was later a publisher in that city, and afterwards managing editor of "The Cincinnati Gazette." He was much interested in agriculture, was in that department at Washington for some years, and was a foundation member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in whose hall a portrait of him may be seen. He was founder of "The New England Farmer."

Abner Stearns was about nine years of age at the opening of the Revolution. He and brother, Solomon, sleeping by his side, were awakened at an early hour of April 19, 1775, by their father, Lieutenant Edward, who announced that the British were coming. Lieutenant Edward and his oldest son, Solomon, joined the Bedford company of militia, and were early at Concord. There is a well-authenticated family tradition that the father was in military authority in the latter part of the day, after the death of Capt. Jonathan Wilson. The tradition is strengthened by the fact that Stearns and Wilson married half sisters. The officers of the Minute Men not being commissioned, it is reasonable to suppose that family relations were to be considered in this emergency. Father and son reported at Cambridge on the following day; the former soon returned to his family, and the latter remained on duty, sickened, and died May 18. (See epitaph and p. 66.)

Abner and the other members of the family who remained at home, on the east bank of the Concord River, distinctly heard the reports of the musketry during the engagement, as they were wafted down the stream on the breeze of that April morning. He often entertained his family in after life with descriptions of his feelings on that day, and of the activity of each member, old enough for service, in the preparation of food for the army, in running bullets, and making cartridges. Rachel, Susanna, and Alice, daughters in the family, aged respectively 16, 13, and 11, shared in the labors of that day during the absence of father and brother at Concord.

This experience early developed an inherited military taste, and he became prominent in the militia of the state. He was commissioned as ensign of the Bedford company, Oct. 17, 1793. The signature of Samuel Adams is upon the commission. He was made captain of the company June 8, 1797, and resigned July 20, 1799. These and many other military papers are treasured by his grandsons. Among them are "General Orders," dated May 1, 1798, from headquarters, Roxbury, Mass., and signed by William Donnison, adjutant-general. This was when the country was full of excitement because of threatened war with France.

Although Mr. Stearns enjoyed but limited advantages for education, his inquiring mind and perseverance enabled him to acquire much general and practical knowledge, and he became the peer of many whose early advantages had been superior to his. He was a mechanical genius, and of an inventive turn of mind. The experiments that resulted in a machine for splitting leather were

perfected by him, and the first one ever used was made in a room in his dwelling-house; and the patent credited to Major Samuel Parker is in a large degree due to the skill of Abner Stearns. In 1805 he removed to West Cambridge (Arlington), bought land, and started a woolen factory, which he sold to John Tufts in 1808. He then bought another lot about one-third of a mile above his former purchase, and created a water power by digging a canal half a mile long, an enterprise almost unprecedented at that time. Here he established a thrifty business in wool carding. A grist-mill was soon added, and later altered to one for grinding mineral substances and making yellow ochre for paint. He also ran a machine for preparing dye-woods. In 1811 he erected a large building over the brook, where he manufactured machines for splitting leather, churns of a peculiar construction, and various kinds of agricultural implements. Among other inventions he perfected one for dyeing silk, which has been extensively used. In this same building he had a fulling-mill, and a spinning jenny of seventy-two spindles. The yarn was made into broadcloth, and the business was remunerative until the close of the 1812 war, when importation ruined this domestic industry. A patent right issued to him, bearing the signatures of President James Munroe and Secretary of State John Quincy Adams, is among the family treasures.

In 1816 he returned to his old home. His dwelling-house, mill, and other property, were in Billerica, but on the Bedford line; and a part of the Stearns homestead, and all public interests of the family, were identified with the people of this town. He was classed among the most enterprising, intellectual, and public spirited citizens. The impression made in the mechanical arts and upon the business world, by Capt. Abner Stearns and his family, is of national repute. Through all of the vicissitudes of business life they have never lost an interest in this town, and many of its public and private enterprises have been aided by the representatives of Capt. Abner Stearns.

Mr. Stearns' children all had a thirst for knowledge, and were encouraged to obtain it. The only daughter enjoyed the advantages of Bradford Academy, and became a teacher of enviable reputation. The sons enjoyed a partial course in English at the academy in Andover. Edward H. and Albert T. were there at the same time. They often made the journey of fifteen miles, between home and school, on foot; and while there worked to pay their expenses in part, some of the labor consisting of planing pitch-pine boards which had been floated down the Merrimac River, and were sandy and uneven in thickness. The elder brother made six cents per hour, and the younger four cents. Albert T. planed, by hand, all of the hard-pine boards for the floors of two of the buildings used for lodging-rooms. The expense of board here was reduced, at one time during their course of study, to ninety cents per week. It afforded the simple necessities only, but these young men, and others who endured such privations in order to secure the advantages of mental training, have made enduring impressions in the world.

*Abner*,<sup>7</sup> the oldest child, only one by the first wife, and the namesake of his father, ran the mill at the homestead for a while, and then went to Bennington, Vt., and later to Texas, where he died. He was engaged at both locations in the business of a machinist. He m. Mary Dresser of Vermont, who, with a son and daughter, survived him.

**Edward Harrison,**<sup>7</sup> took a course of three years at Andover, after which he taught school at Provincetown, making the journey to the cape in a schooner. He then went to Covington, Ky., and spent a season, and later started the business of wool carding, having conducted the business of the home farm after the death of his parents, and had a farm in Stoneham in the meantime. He increased his manufacturing business by adding a planing-mill and general wood-working establishment. This was all destroyed by fire, when he erected a set of fire-proof buildings. He was next found in Cincinnati, O., engaged in inventing, improving, and manufacturing saw-mill machinery. His business next called him to Hamilton, O., after which he bought lands in Erie, Penn., and started large manufacturing industries. When facilities for travelling were most primitive, he made personal visits to all states in which there were lumbering camps, to introduce machinery of his patent and manufacture, which for the relief of manual labor was ofestimable value.

The inventive genius of the father was an inheritance with this son. He was credited with thirty patents which were the outcome of his own mind. As is very often the case, unprincipled men sought to obtain his honors by infringing upon his patents, and he was known to stand in defence of his own rights, in the court house, until he fainted from exhaustion. The fame of this son, who began life by experimenting in an obscure saw-mill in Bedford, has spread throughout the land. The Stearns Manufacturing Company, of Erie, Penn., of which Edward Harrison Stearns was the founder, is the largest establishment of the kind in the West, and is known throughout the world. Previous to his career saw-mill machinery was very poor, and through his efforts a complete revolution was made in the lumber manufacture.

Mr. Stearns was an ardent abolitionist, having imbibed the spirit when at Andover, and from the beginning of the anti-slavery movement was a prominent champion of the cause. Religiously he was of the faith of Emanuel Swedenborg, was prominent in establishing a church where that faith was taught, and the chief financial supporter. His energy and public spirit made him a leader in the different places of his residence, where he always enjoyed the confidence of his associates.

He married Harriet C. Raymond of Charlestown, Mass., and had no children. His death occurred August, 1880.

**George Sullivan,**<sup>7</sup> when eighteen years old, went West, after pursuing a short course of study at Andover. It then required two weeks to make the journey to Alton, Ill., which can now be made in twenty-four hours. He was at Alton two years, engaged in the milling business, after which he spent some time in Kentucky, at farming and nursery business, on the Licking River. From there he went to Lawrenceburg, Ind., and started the lumber business. In the year 1840 he was at Cincinnati engaged in printing and stereotyping. He stereotyped the first copy of the Mormon Bible. He experimented in the manufacture of printers' ink, and became the leading manufacturer of that article in the West. In 1849 he bought his brother Henry's interest in the wadding business, and the two lines were thereafter merged in one. It thus appears that George S. and Henry A. were the founders of this firm, which is one of the oldest manufacturing concerns in Cincinnati. Mr. Stearns, with his sons and others, started the lumber business in Lockland, O., about the year 1880, where they built large mills.

While this was being successfully prosecuted, he engaged in several other manufacturing enterprises, the last being with his brother, Henry A. (each of whom were representatives of their respective companies), in the erection of the mills of the Dominion Wadding Company, at Montreal, Can., of which a son of each is in charge.

Mr. Stearns built a fine residence at Wyoming, O., where he died in 1889. He was modest and retiring in his nature, and was never persuaded to accept any political or public office. He was possessed of rare judgment, and was successful in life in the best way. He was generous, and always ready to help others. Among the many objects of his benevolence was the Trinitarian Congregational society of Bedford, which his father had helped in forming, and the church connected with it, in which he had learned those principles that predominated during his entire life. He contributed liberally towards rebuilding the meeting-house, in 1886, which his father had assisted in erecting more than a half century earlier. While always greatly interested in church work, and an abundant giver in the support of the gospel, he kept himself in the background. He had but little to say about religious matters, but his life was a constant application of Christianity. Through humbling himself he became exalted. He was a founder of the Presbyterian church of Wyoming, O., an elder, trustee, and large contributor to its support.

The following tribute of respect is from the pen of the widely known editor of "The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette," Hon. Richard Smith:—

"The late George S. Stearns, who was called to his rest on Sunday evening [Nov. 24, 1889], deserves more than a passing notice, as all who knew him will cheerfully and sorrowfully concede. Away back in the early forties the firm of Stearns & Foster was organized in Cincinnati, and it has continued, growing with its growth, and even expanding far beyond its limit. It has proved a firm of solid industry, honorable and conservative enterprise, and unspotted integrity. It never compromised its obligations. In all the years of its history it paid dollar for dollar. Now death comes to break this old firm, the oldest in the city, and the last, we think, of the firms that had an existence back of 1850.

"But we are to speak of the deceased. He was a useful citizen. He understood his business, and he kept to it very closely. He was a success, but his success did not spoil him. Evidently he was not made to be spoiled. He did not figure as a statesman, and therefore his reputation is not as widespread as it might be; but within his circle he had a great reputation that was deserved and will follow him. He was a rich man, but he has left something better than gold to those who now mourn his death.

"It may truly be said of Mr. Stearns that he was a lovely man. He was just in all things, harsh in nothing; benevolent in all things, stingy in nothing. He did good right along through life. In this respect he was largely his own administrator, and has left a good example which may well be held up as worthy of imitation.

"Mr. Stearns did not rust out either. He loved honorable labor, and he died in the harness.

"All this is said, not for the dead, but the living. Multitudes will mourn the death and revere the memory of George S. Stearns."

He m. May 30, 1844, Amelia, dau. of William Stephenson, who came from England, and d. Nov. 24, 1889. Ch.

**h George Herbert,**<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 14, 1845. **h Edwin Russell,**<sup>8</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1847. **h Alfred Monroe,**<sup>8</sup> b. Jan. 20, 1849. **Anna Russell,** b. April 7, 1851, d. May 13, 1852. **Helen Foster,** b. Jan. 12, 1853, m. Jan. 19, 1882, Josiah Dwight, had 2 ch.; the youngest, Anna Dwight, d. May 1, 1891. **Amelia George,** b. June 5, 1855, m. Mar. 25, 1879, Rufus Alan Cowing, have 4 ch. **h William Stephenson,**<sup>8</sup> b. April 10, 1857. **h Harold English,**<sup>8</sup> b. July 21, 1859. **Arthur Harrison,**<sup>8</sup> b. July 24, 1861, d. Mar. 27, 1880.

**George Herbert,**<sup>8</sup> m. April 15, 1874, Isabella M. Weld of Boston. Ch. **Minot Weld,**<sup>9</sup> b. Aug. 20, 1876. **Mabel Weld,** b. Oct. 18, 1877. **Gordon Weld,**<sup>9</sup> b. Nov. 20, 1880.

**Edwin Russell,**<sup>8</sup> m. June 14, 1883, Luella Evans. Ch. **Dorothy Amelia,** b. Dec. 28, 1885. **Freons Foster,**<sup>9</sup> b. Oct. 9, 1889.

**Alfred Monroe,**<sup>8</sup> Yale College (1870), m. April 18, 1872, Elizabeth Palmer. Ch. **Greta,** b. Jan. 9, 1875. **Clayton Palmer,**<sup>9</sup> b. June 24, 1879.

**William Stephenson,**<sup>8</sup> m. June 22, 1881, Mevia Lena Stout. Ch. **Margaret Rose,** b. May 31, 1882, d. Oct. 14, 1886. **Lucy Stephenson,** b. Mar. 1, 1886. **Harriet,** b. Aug. 19, 1889.

**Harold English,**<sup>8</sup> m. June 4, 1884, Lela Eleanor Curtis. Ch. **Katherine Curtis,** b. Mar. 5, 1888.

**Albert T.**<sup>7</sup> after completing his hard-earned course of study at Andover, turned his attention to the farm and mill at his home. His mechanical taste was early manifested in the miniature saw and grist mills made by him, and put in operation in the stream running from the pond to the mill. At the age of eighteen he was employed by David Fitch, in his grist-mill on the Shawshine. In 1840 he worked for Luke Brooks of Cambridgeport. The following year found him at Waltham, in the dry goods trade, where he learned to cut clothing, both custom and ready-made,—the latter branch of the business being then in its infancy. He then spent a year in the grocery trade at West Cambridge (Arlington), the place of business being the Russell store of Revolutionary fame. It was rifled by the British soldiers on April 19, 1775. It is still in the family name. (The mother of the subject of this sketch was a Russell.) The young man was next found at the old mill of the homestead, and again back to Waltham, in the same store; and from there he carried goods over the country, thereby receiving the benefit of open air which his health demanded. Each of these experiments failed to satisfy the adventurous spirit and mechanical genius of the young man, and he turned his attention to carpentering, and carried on the lumber business together with building. He built a planing and saw mill in 1843-4, which he operated, in connection with a partner, until 1849, when the copartnership was dissolved, and he prosecuted for a while.

Mr. Stearns thought of establishing the lumber business at Cincinnati, O., but the appearance of cholera led him to return to his native state. He located at Neponset, and started the lumber business in a small way, which has developed into a large enterprise; and the A. T. Stearns Lumber Company, which includes father and sons, is known throughout the country. They have introduced the cypress lumber to New England, and developed a new feature of the lumber trade. In 1883 Mr. Stearns turned his attention to the cypress swamps of the South, and established a mill at Apalachicola, Fla., where the Cypress Lumber Company is under the personal super-

vision of the youngest son of the founder. Mr. Stearns has been identified with the growth of Neponset from a few scattering houses to its present prosperity, a period of forty years. Fire has caused him to build four mills on his site during this time. He has greatly increased his acreage by filling marsh lands. He has patented several of his new inventions which are in use at present. The experimental years of Mr. Stearns' life gave him an insight to various branches of trade which has been helpful in the development of a self-reliant business man, whose integrity and benevolence give him an honored place in society.

He m. June 11, 1843, Salome Maynard of Sudbury, who d. Feb. 7, 1881. Ch. **h Albert Henry,**<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 15, 1844. **h Waldo Harrison,**<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 21, 1847. **Francis Maynard,**<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 17, 1850, d. June 17, 1853. **Anna Russell,** b. Oct. 14, 1852, d. Dec. 31, 1853. **h Frederick Maynard,**<sup>8</sup> b. Nov. 23, 1854. **Salome,** b. and d. Feb. 1859. **Andelle Augusta,** b. Feb. 10, 1860, m. Frederick C. Moseley of Dorchester. Have 1 son.

**Albert Henry,**<sup>8</sup> m. Kate E. Dexter of Pawtucket, R.I. Ch. **Albert Maynard,**<sup>9</sup> b. Aug. 20, 1886. **Henry Dexter,**<sup>9</sup> b. Mar. 7, 1888. **Albert Thomas,**<sup>9</sup> b. April 22, 1890.

**Waldo Harrison,**<sup>8</sup> m. Izenna Chesbro. Ch. **Walden Walde,**<sup>9</sup> b. Dec. 28, 1876. **Maurice Harrison,**<sup>9</sup> b. Oct. 1879. **Donald Bancroft,**<sup>9</sup> b. Sept. 1, 1882.

**Frederick Maynard,**<sup>8</sup> m. Julia Marland Ricker of Boston.

**Henry Augustus,**<sup>7</sup> was about twelve years of age when his parents died. His father, being desirous that he should have greater educational advantages than the district school afforded, made provision for his attending Phillips Academy, Andover, where he pursued an English course for two years, after which he was dependent upon his own resources. He supported himself by shoemaking and shop-keeping until he was twenty years of age, when he started for the West; and in 1846 he located in Cincinnati, O., and engaged with his half-brother, Mr. J. B. Russell, in the manufacture of cotton wadding. In 1848 he bought Mr. Russell's interest, and disposed of it to Mr. S. C. Foster and formed the copartnership of Stearns & Foster. In 1849, the works having been twice destroyed by fire and rebuilt, he disposed of his interest to his brother, George Sullivan.

Early in the spring of 1850 he turned his attention to California, with the many who were attracted to the Pacific borders at that time. His keen perception led him to the belief that a steam laundry was needed in that new and rapidly developing country. He purchased the required machinery at Cincinnati, and started with it down the Mississippi and over the Gulf of Mexico to Chagres, and then, after much labor, across the isthmus, the boiler being carried overland to Panama by detachments of men. He then took passage, with his freight, for San Francisco, in an old whaling vessel, which proved unseaworthy and came very near foundering. In the delay the provisions were exhausted, and all on board were allowed only four ounces of bread and a pint of water each per day. The craft floated about on the Pacific four months, and when Mr. Stearns reached his destination he was a physical wreck, and life was despaired of; but he rallied, set up his machinery, and successfully established the first steam laundry in California. After a time he sold his interest to his partner, and opened the largest restaurant in San Francisco at that time. He soon purchased an interest in a





*Sam. J. Stearns -*



steamboat, and ran the first regular steam ferry between San Francisco and the present city of Oakland. While a resident of San Francisco he witnessed the execution, by the vigilance committee, of numerous ruffians who had floated in there with the tide of immigration. For the next two years he was chiefly engaged in running a saw-mill, at San Jose, and keeping a store at Gilroy.

In the fall of 1853 he returned to Cincinnati, and resumed the manufacture of cotton wadding, with the old company, on a more extensive scale. His health necessitated a change in 1857, and he removed to Buffalo, N. Y., and started a new industry,—the manufacture of hardware. While here, with large investments, the disastrous financial period began, and Mr. Stearns saw his accumulations swept away. He sought to retrieve his fortune in Sangamon county, Ill., where he bought a tract of timber land, set up a saw-mill, and carried on a farm for three years.

The year 1861 found him at Pawtucket, R. I., associated with Darius Goff and others, in the manufacture of cotton wadding. The business has increased from a small beginning, through the energy of Mr. Stearns and his associates, until the Union Wadding Company has one of the largest and best equipped establishments of the kind in the world. Mr. Stearns has been the superintendent from the beginning. The Company has mills at Augusta, Ga., and Montreat, Can. Mr. Stearns' son George is superintendent of the Southern mills, and his son Deshler, with a nephew, Harold E. Stearns of Ohio, are managers of the latter industry.

The inventive genius of the father, Capt. Abner Stearns, is well represented in his youngest son, the subject of this sketch. He has devised several contrivances which have been of great value in his business. He has also obtained a number of patents on cotton-gins, and on machinery for extracting oil from cotton waste and kindred substances. Another of his patents is the railway safety gate, so generally used in all parts of the country where there are railroad crossings.

Mr. Stearns resides at Central Falls, R. I. He has filled many important positions of trust in the place of his residence, represented the town of Lincoln in both branches of the General Assembly, and was elected lieutenant-governor of Rhode Island in 1891. He is one of the trustees of the Franklin Savings Bank of Pawtucket, and was for two years president of the Pawtucket Business Men's Association. He is the largest stockholder in the Kilby Manufacturing Company of Cleveland, O., the business being the manufacture of sugar-mills, paper-mills, steam engines, etc.; and he has a cattle ranch in New Mexico. Religiously, he followed in the footsteps of his parents, who were honored members of the Trinitarian Church of Bedford, and is a member of the Central Falls Congregational Church, of which he is a liberal supporter.

He m. June 26, 1850, Kate Falconer, of Hamilton, O. Ch. *Dezler Falconer*,<sup>2</sup> b. Aug. 7, 1857. *George Russell*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1860. *Walter Henry*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 3, 1862, m. June 5, 1890, Abbie Harris Razeo. *Kate Russell*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 21, 1864. *Charles Falconer*,<sup>2</sup> b. July 27, 1869, graduated from Amherst College in 1888. *Henry Foster*,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 3, 1868. *Anna Russell*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 4, 1873, d. Feb. 7, 1874. *Caroline Cranston*,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 18, 1875.

It is noticeable in the family record of the last three sons of Capt. Abner Stearns and Anna Russell, that each had three daughters, and one of each trio was named Anna

Russell; and that each namesake of the grandmother died in infancy. Anna, dau. of Josiah Dwight and Helen Stearns, and gr.-dau. of George S. Stearns, d. May 1, 1891, while our MSS. was in the hands of the printer.

**Isaac<sup>6</sup>** (Hon.), a soldier in the French war, magistrate and distinguished citizen of Billerica, became so generally identified with Bedford through his marriage, and that of his children, that he is introduced here. He m. Feb. 11, 1748, Sarah, dau. of Obed and Elizabeth Abbott of Bedford. He d. Mar. 23, 1808; she d. Jan. 9, 1815.

**William<sup>7</sup>**,<sup>2</sup> son of Isaac<sup>6</sup> and Elizabeth (Abbott), b. Aug. 4, 1752, m. Sept. 25, 1777, Betsey Davis of Bedford.

**William<sup>7</sup>**,<sup>2</sup> son of William<sup>6</sup> b. June 10, 1778, m. Feb. 12, 1801, Betsey, dau. of Thaddeus and Sarah Davis. He d. Sept. 19, 1823. She d. July 27, 1844. Ch. *Horatio Davis*,<sup>8</sup> b. Jan. 10, 1803. *Selinda*,<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 18, 1804, d. April 27, 1860. *Matilda Caroline*,<sup>8</sup> d. young. **William Albert**,<sup>7</sup> b. Oct. 12, 1809. *Elizabeth Caroline*,<sup>8</sup> b. Dec. 9, 1811, d. June 8, 1888. *Charles Blucher*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 16, 1814. *Isaac Davis*,<sup>7</sup> b. July 21, 1821, m. Sept. 10, 1857, Catherine L. Knight of Woburn, d. Oct. 30, 1882. Ch. *Mary Kilburn*,<sup>8</sup> b. June 12, 1850, d. Nov. 1, 1877. *Finnie Davis*,<sup>8</sup> b. May 5, 1867, m. Sept. 11, 1890. *Frank E. Sales*.

**William Albert**,<sup>7</sup> son of William<sup>6</sup> m. April 3, 1834, Clarissa Tarbell. He d. Mar. 22, 1871; she d. Oct. 20, 1877. Ch. *Henry Augustus*,<sup>8</sup> b. Feb. 26, 1836, m. Sept. 3, 1857, Mary F. Williams, d. May 20, 1803. *Emily Ann*,<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 28, 1838, m. July 4, 1872, George A. Fuller. *Samuel Wirt*,<sup>8</sup> b. Sept. 28, 1841, d. in the Civil War (see p. 69). *William Frederick*,<sup>8</sup> b. Mar. 19, 1849, m. June 3, 1891, Helen A. White.

William Albert Stearns was a shoemaker by trade, and a man of prominence in town and church. (See town officers.) He was deacon of the Church of Christ, and clerk of the Trinitarian Congregational society connected with it, at the time of his death, which occurred at Lowell, in March, 1871, while he was serving as juror in the superior court.

**Timothy**,<sup>6</sup> son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 25, 1763, m. Nov. 1, 1787, Sarah, dau. of Jonathan Lane of Bedford. He d. Aug. 8, 1810; she d. June 13, 1849. Of his ch., *Obed*,<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 21, 1801, m. May 27, 1827, Melitable Culeton, and settled on a farm in the south part of the town. They had Josiah Obed,<sup>8</sup> b. Oct. 17, 1830; Amos,<sup>8</sup> b. 1831, m. Oct. 1856, Mary A. Hartwell; Eckley.

Eckley Stearns was deacon of the Congregational church in Woburn. He gave one of the Rose windows in Amherst College church as a memorial.

**Samuel<sup>6</sup>** (Rev.), the fourth minister of Bedford, was the fourth son of Rev. Josiah<sup>5</sup> of Epping, N.H., and grandson of John of Billerica and Esther Johnson of Woburn. He was b. at Epping, N.H., April 8, 1770, and m. May 9, 1797, Abigail, dau. of Rev. Jonathan French of Andover. Ch. *Abigail F.* b. and d. 1798. *Abigail F.* b. Jan. 7, 1800, m. Jonas Monroe, d. Jan. 1833. **Samuel Horatio**,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 12, 1801, d. in Paris, France, July 15, 1837. *Sarah Caroline*,<sup>7</sup> b. April 15, 1803, m. Sept. 27, 1827, Rev. Forest Jefferts. **William Augustus**,<sup>7</sup> b. Mar. 17, 1805, d. June 8, 1876. *Maria H.* b. Nov. 14, 1806, d. June 8, 1881. **Jonathan French**,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 4, 1808, d. Nov. 11, 1880. *Elizabeth W.* b. July 29, 1810, m. Dec. 8, 1831, Dea. Charles James. *Josiah Atherton*,<sup>7</sup> and *George Washington*,<sup>7</sup> twins, b. Sept.

1, 1812; Josiah d. Sept. 8, 1883; George d. in infancy. *Charlotte Esther*, b. Sept. 17, 1814, m. Rev. Jonathan Leavitt, q.v. *Ann Catherine*, b. Oct. 10, 1816. *h Ebenezer S.* b. Dec. 23, 1810, d. April, 1887.

The public life of Rev. Samuel Stearns has received extended comment in the ecclesiastical and general chapters, and the following biographical notice is in part the same as found in the appendix to Shattuck's history of Concord, published soon after the death of Mr. Stearns. It was gathered from the sermon delivered by Rev. Samuel Sewall at the funeral of his honored friend and brother in the ministry.

Rev. Samuel Stearns was born at Epping, N.H., April 8, 1770, fitted for college, after his father's death, at Exeter Academy, under the patronage of Hon John Phillips, its founder, and graduated at Harvard College in 1794. His theological studies were pursued under the direction of Rev. Jonathan French of Andover. He was ordained over the Church and Society in Bedford, April 27, 1796. A new religious society having been legally formed, Nov. 9, 1832, by the name of the "Trinitarian Congregational Society," and the church having voted, at a meeting, May 9, 1833, to dissolve its connection with the First Parish, and to accept an invitation given it to unite with the new society, Rev. Mr. Stearns was solemnly constituted the minister of that society, June 5, 1833. He died Dec. 26, 1834. It is worthy of remark, that, during the whole of his protracted ministry, almost thirty-nine years, he was never absent from his people at any communion season but one,—viz., that which occurred about two weeks before his death.

More than a half century has passed since Rev. Samuel Stearns entered into rest, and but few remain who received early instruction from him; yet his influence for good is still active.

When the church was repaired and newly furnished, in 1886, a memorial window was consecrated to his memory. In this, the extended hand, holding the uplifted cross, is artistically represented, and the following inscription is seen:

IN MEMORIAM.

Rev. Samuel Stearns 1796—1834.

**Samuel Horatio** was the oldest son, and second child that survived infancy, of Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French. He was a feeble child, of a serious, thoughtful mind. His early education was obtained in the village school, under the careful direction of his thoughtful parents. He entered Phillips Academy, Andover, December, 1810, then a little more than fifteen years of age. He united with the church in Bedford, of which his father was pastor, June 1, 1817. He entered the freshman class in Harvard University in the autumn of 1819, and taught school at times during his course, which was pursued with difficulty, because of physical weakness, graduating in August, 1823. His part in the commencement exercises was the Latin salutatory. "On taking his second degree, three years after, he delivered the master's valedictory in Latin." Mr. Stearns spent some months as teacher in Phillips Academy, and joined the junior class in the Theological Seminary, at Andover, in December, 1825, completing his course there in the autumn of 1828. He preached in Philadelphia during the following winter, as an assistant to Rev. Dr. Skinner, and paid much attention to recruit-

ing his health. After seasons of preaching in the Federal Street Church of Newburyport, Park Street Church of Boston, and elsewhere, he was ordained as pastor of the Old South Church and Society of Boston, April 16, 1834. His health, which at that time seemed to be well established, soon began to fail, and he was able to preach but two Sabbaths and one sermon. He returned to Bedford, spent some months journeying by carriage through New England and elsewhere, and in all ways endeavoring to renew his strength so as to be able to resume his pastoral work, but received no permanent benefit. He asked a dismission from the church and society where his beautiful spirit and brilliant talents had been manifested so short a time. Being persuaded of the recuperating influence of a sea voyage, and a journey abroad, he sailed for London, June 8, 1836. He spent months journeying through the mild latitudes of the continent, during which time strength and weakness were alternating, and was on his homeward journey, having reached Paris, when strength failed, and he passed away July 15, 1837. His remains were brought to this country, and deposited in Mount Auburn, Dec. 26, 1837, the fourth anniversary of his father's death.

**William Augustus**, D.D., LL.D., was the second son of Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French. He was taken to the parish church and baptized on the day of his birth, which was a cold Sabbath in March. The custom then prevailing of baptizing an infant on the first Sabbath after its birth was rigidly adhered to by the pastor of the town. The luxury of a fire was never known in the first meeting-house. Such an act of religious form when viewed from present custom seems presumptuous, but no harm befell the infant. William Augustus was a precocious scholar. At the age of six years he recited the Assembly's Shorter Catechism entire at one lesson, in the church, and agreeable to rule was afterwards allowed to occupy the "spectators' seat" during recitation, and see companions of twice his years struggle with this ancient compendium of religious instruction. At fourteen years of age he committed the entire Gospel of Luke in one week, working in the hay-field with the men the while through the day. He carried his Testament in his pocket, and stole a verse now and then as opportunity was afforded. He was equally forward in the study of the Latin language. He seized the opportunity one afternoon, when the book which served several of the brothers was not in use, learned his first Latin lesson, and presented himself before his astonished father for recitation.

William A. Stearns, looked upon as so saintly in after life, was a boy among boys, as were the others of the parsonage. They were forbidden to engage in fights with companions. This family rule became known to others, and a stout, swaggering fellow, of twice the size of William, took advantage of it, and began to bully and torment him beyond endurance. He went home to his mother with the grievance, and declared that he could not stand it any longer, and that his companions would regard it cowardly in him not to stand up in self-defence. After listening to his impassioned story, the mother asked, "Do you think you can handle him?" "Yes!" was the boy's positive reply. "Well," she rejoined, "I do not like to have boys fight." This did not veto his plan, and the next time he was attacked in the company of his mates he caught the big fellow, thrashed him thoroughly, and threw him over the nearest stone wall.

He received the same course of training that his brother Samuel enjoyed, and was obliged to practice the most rigid economy while pursuing his studies at Andover and at Cambridge, as were his brothers. He graduated from Harvard College in 1827. During his college course he never hired a conveyance in all of his journeys between his native town and Cambridge. He taught school each winter, earning thereby some twenty or twenty-five dollars a month. He spent the year after his graduation in teaching, as principal at the Duxbury Academy, and there formed the acquaintance of the lady who afterwards became his wife. His course of theology was taken at Andover. Of his class, six have been editors, eight professors in colleges or theological seminaries, two presidents of colleges; seventeen have been made doctors of divinity, or of law, or of both.

He was ordained and installed pastor of the First Evangelical Congregational Church, in Cambridgeport, Dec. 14, 1831, and remained in the position twenty-three years, lacking only a few days. He saw his church grow from an unpopular remnant to a strong, influential, and popular church, and his annual salary increased from \$700 to \$1,500.

Mr. Stearns left this flourishing position with much reluctance, to enter upon a broader field of labor as president of Amherst College, in November, 1854, where he remained until his useful life was terminated by death, June 8, 1876. The growth and general prosperity of the college, during the twenty-two years of Dr. Stearns' presidency, is sufficient proof of his ability and faithfulness. Shortly after he entered upon the presidency, he was appointed a member of the Massachusetts Board of Education, and was an active member for eight consecutive years. He was a leading light among the members of the corporation of Phillips Academy and the Theological Seminary at Andover. In 1853 the honorary degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by Harvard College. In 1862 the College of New Jersey added to his honors the title of doctor of laws.

During the war Dr. Stearns was wise in his counsel to the young men of the college who felt called upon to enter the army. Among the members of the college who gave up their lives for the Union was his own son, who fell fighting within the enemy's lines at Newbern. "One of the guns which he and his comrades captured, and near which he fell, presented to the college for that purpose by the commanding general [A. L. Burnside], is an expressive trophy at once of the bravery of Adjutant Stearns and of the patriotic devotion of his father." Among the many published works of Dr. Stearns was that inspiring book for youth, "The Life of Adjutant Stearns." The Amherst College Church, or Memorial Chapel, was erected during the presidency of Dr. Stearns. The three rose windows were given as testimonials of regard for the president. The donors were Dea. Eckley Stearns of Woburn, Gov. Onslow Stearns of New Hampshire, and the Church of Christ at Bedford.

Dr. Stearns was president of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society for seventeen years, 1859 to 1876.

The history of his native town, and of others in the immediate vicinity, was of much interest to him. He inaugurated the centennial celebration of the battle of Lexington, by preaching an admirable sermon in Hancock Church on the Sabbath and day preceding the great convocation. He

gave an historical address, in July, 1868, at the half-century celebration of the organizing of the first Sabbath school in Bedford, of which he was an original member and his father the founder. The people of Bedford who were the associates of William A. Stearns in their youth, with their children and grandchildren, have each in turn delighted to honor this distinguished son of the town, and rejoice that he found here a birthplace and early home; that he loved to turn his steps to this town when active service permitted, and that the cherished hope of his declining years was to complete his life where it began. But this was not so ordered; death met him in the midst of activity, with his baccalaureate sermon partly finished.

**Jonathan French, D.D.**, was the seventh child and third son of Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French. Rev. David R. Frazer, D.D., said of the subject of this sketch, in a memorial sermon delivered in Newark, N.J., Dec. 1, 1880: "Although character is a growth, the qualities which underlie character are received by inheritance; hence there is much in every man's life that is directly traceable to his ancestry. In this respect Dr. Stearns was peculiarly favored."

He fitted for college at Phillips Academy. While there, he, in conjunction with Horatio B. Hackett, Ray Palmer, and others, organized the Philomathean Society. His preparatory education was chiefly obtained through his own efforts; he boasted that he earned with his own hands the money that paid for his first Latin grammar. He entered Harvard College in 1826, and there had the aid and companionship of his two older brothers, who had preceded him in classical study. The Hon. Charles Sumner was his classmate, and for a time his room-mate. The friendship then formed lasted until the death of the statesman. In order to meet his own expenses while at college, he taught country schools, and served as tutor to students needing such help; among those thus aided was Amos Lawrence, his lifelong friend. He assisted William H. Prescott in the preparation of his life of Ferdinand and Isabella, by translating Spanish manuscripts. He and Charles Sumner were founders of "The Nine," a literary society connected with the college. His theological studies were pursued at Andover Seminary, and under the direction of his father and older brother, William.

He was licensed to preach in October, 1834, and was ordained and installed pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Newburyport, Sept. 16, 1835. He remained here fourteen years, and secured for himself a well-deserved and enviable reputation in the profession. He accepted a unanimous call from the First Presbyterian Church of Newark, N.J., and was installed as pastor of that church on Dec. 13, 1849. He compiled the history of the First Church in that city in the early years of his second pastorate. This has proved to be invaluable, both to the church and city; upon it all subsequent works of local history have been based. In 1850 he was made a director in Union Theological Seminary. In the same year the honorary title of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by Princeton College, and in 1864 he was made a trustee of that institution. Drs. Stearns and Poor were instrumental in forming the German Theological Seminary, at Bloomfield; the former was president of the board of directors for many years.

In 1879 Dr. Stearns was selected by the people of his native town to deliver an historical address, on the occa-

sion of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town. This service required many months of careful preparation, and was given as a labor of love. It was published in connection with a detailed account of the celebration, and is treasured as a lasting memorial of this honored son of Bedford.

Dr. Stearns was relieved from active duty after thirty-three years of faithful service in this his second charge. He was made pastor emeritus April 1, 1882, and given a liberal support for life.

He died Nov. 11, 1889, having been in the pastoral office fifty-four years, which, with the exception of seven and a half years, were full of the most active service. In 1843 Dr. Stearns was united in marriage with Miss Anna Prentiss of Portland, Me. She died Jan. 2, 1869. Children who have inherited grand qualities from both parents are doing valuable service in the world.

**Josiah Atherton**, A.M., Ph.D., was the ninth child of Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French (a twin mate died in infancy). His advantages for early education were the same as those of his older brothers, but he did not take a collegiate course; yet in advanced life he received the honor of the title of Master of Arts from Harvard College, and is erroneously credited in the ecclesiastical section of this work, and in other publications, as having taken the same course of classical study that his brothers did. The absence of this training was an occasion for regret to himself, but seldom noticed by others. After his academic course Mr. Stearns entered upon the life of a bookseller and publisher; but this was neither in accordance with his taste, nor a financial success. He soon found employment, more in the line of his early training and inherited tendency, in the public schools of Boston, where he spent the remainder of his active life, retiring from service in 1882, one year before his death. He was honored near the close of his school service with the title of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Nashville, Tenn., of which his younger brother was the chancellor.

A notice of the death of Mr. Stearns, published in "The Boston Journal," Sept. 8, 1883, contained the following: "Josiah A. Stearns, A.M., Ph.D., was one of the veteran schoolmasters of Boston, whose intelligence, conscientious and untiring, though perchance not conspicuous, efforts, have done so much to build up and perpetuate the excellency of our common school system." He was for thirty-nine years in the service of the city of Boston, as usher in the Adams and head-master of the Mather, Lawrence, and Norcross schools. (See epitaph.) The system which prevailed at one time gave him the additional responsibility of ten primary schools and a boys' grammar school of eight hundred pupils. His former pupils, numbering tens of thousands, remember him as a careful, thorough teacher, and a genuine, open-hearted friend. The testimony of many is that of one involuntarily uttered while leaving the village church at Bedford, where the funeral services were held: "I owe all that I am as a successful business man to the one whose body rests in the casket yonder."

The following memorial is self explaining:—

#### CITY OF BOSTON.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE, Sept. 26, 1882.

*Resolved*, That in accepting the resignation of Josiah A. Stearns, master of the Norcross School, this committee is glad to place upon the records a recognition of the many admirable qualities with which Mr. Stearns has advanced his office through a teaching service in the employment of the city of more than thirty-nine years.

*Resolved*, That his most fitting memorial is in the love and veneration of the hundreds of men and women whose youth he helped to train in high and noble ways, and who in his old age will continue to call him blessed.

*Resolved*, That we extend to him most cordial wishes that he may live long to enjoy the satisfaction of honor, love, obedience, and troops of friends, which he has earned in his public work and private worth.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of the board, and a copy thereof, properly engrossed, be sent to Mr. Stearns.

Adopted unanimously.

Attest:

PHINEAS RATES, JR., Secretary.

BY E. BENTLEY YOUNG OF BOSTON.

Josiah A. Stearns was actively identified with the Masonic fraternity for more than twenty-nine years. He served his brethren in important and influential positions, and always with a deep sense of the responsibility of office. As chaplain of several bodies he was best known. For years he presided at the altars of the lodge, chapter, and commandery. In prayer he was especially gifted; his words were happily chosen, and his thoughts appropriate. Seldom absent from the meetings, genial in manner, wise in council, eloquent in speech, he was greatly beloved by his associates; his companionship was delightful. His services were gratefully appreciated by his brethren, who, in two of the bodies with which he was connected, unanimously elected him an honorary member.

He was proposed for the degrees in Columbian Lodge, March 2, 1854, by Bro. J. W. Barton, was initiated May 4, 1854, and raised a Master Mason, Oct. 26, 1854. Within three or four years from that date his brethren learned of his peculiar fitness to serve the lodge as chaplain, and by 1860 he was duly installed in that position. In 1863 he had gained the confidence of his brethren so fully as to be elected junior warden, from which position he was regularly advanced till he became master of the lodge in 1866-7. Having served the body faithfully and efficiently, he again became its chaplain, and continued to hold that position till the day of his death.

He was also chaplain of Abourndour Lodge from its organization till his death. Of this body he was an honorary member.

He was exalted in St. Paul's Royal Arch Chapter, May 11, 1859, and was made a member of that body April 20, 1874. In this body he also officiated as chaplain for several years.

On June 7, 1869, he received the order of the red cross in Joseph Warren Commandery, that of the temple June 22, 1869, and the Malta in the following September. Here again he was called to the important office of chaplain or prelate as early as 1871, which position he retained till Nov. 1, 1882, failing health compelling him to withdraw from further activity, much to the regret of his brother knights. His attendance upon the meetings of the commandery, during the twelve years he served the body as prelate, was constant and uninterrupted; so say the records of the body to-day.

He early applied for the degrees of the ancient accepted Scottish rite. He is on record as having received the thirty-second degree in Boston Consistory, April 17, 1863, and affiliated with Massachusetts Consistory, thirty-second grade, Feb. 15, 1871, when the latter body united with Boston and De Witt Clinton Consistories. In the subordinate Scottish bodies he retained membership until the date of his death, Sept. 8, 1883.

In the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts he acted at one time as chaplain, and also filled the office of grand steward for some time.

An elegant and life-like portrait in oil of Wor. Bro. Stearns adorns the walls of the ante-room of Sutton Hall, Masonic Temple, Boston. It was procured by his numerous friends in Columbian Lodge. It is a just tribute to the memory of a brother whose active interest in, and enthusiastic regard for, the Masonic institution endeared him to the hearts of all with whom he came in contact. That memory will continue a vivid thing with the various Masonic bodies he served so well.

His funeral took place in the Congregational Church of Bedford. It was largely attended by the fraternity, Columbian Lodge conducting the impressive burial service of the fraternity, and Joseph Warren Commandery performing escort duty on that occasion.

Mr. Stearns was also a member of the Order of Odd Fellows. He was a *veteran* Odd Fellow, having been a member of the order more than twenty-five years. He was not particularly active in the order, his Masonic relations being so pressing as to absorb his hours of leisure.

Mr. Stearns always manifested a citizen's interest in the town of his nativity, and was liberal in support of the church of which his father was pastor during the whole of his ministerial life.

The old homestead at Bedford, established by the third minister of the town, and purchased by Rev. Samuel Stearns (father of the subject of this sketch), became the property of Josiah A. Stearns after the decease of his mother. He lavished much of his ample salary in transforming the rocky acres into productive fields. Every rod of upland and meadow was precious to him. He religiously cherished the Lombardy poplars in front of the mansion that had given their best service to his parents, and the graceful elms that had shaded the playgrounds of a noble family. In conjunction with his sister, Miss Ann C. Stearns, he carefully preserved the chambers where great and good men had studied and slept, and where a generation had been born and trained. During seasons of active labor Mr. Stearns retired to his ancestral home for the refreshing quiet that is only found in a typical New England village, and spent the greater part of his vacation seasons here, surrounded by the children and grandchildren of his brothers and sisters, all of whom enjoyed the respect of the people of the town. In all of his arduous labors Mr. Stearns never forgot his native town; and it may truthfully be said that the children of Rev. Samuel Stearns never lost an opportunity in which to honor, by word or deed, the town of Bedford. Mr. Stearns prepared a sketch of the history of the town for Drake's "History of Middlesex County," and was spending his leisure hours on a prospective work of local history when his health failed. His manuscripts are sacredly cherished by his family for an extended work by some future historian.

The grand celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town was in a large measure due to his leadership, although scores of the sons and daughters of Bedford contributed freely towards the enterprise, which for conception and execution was a marvel of success. Mr. Stearns planned and conducted the first "Memorial Day" service, and was active

on each succeeding day of national memorial. He wrote several occasional hymns, one of which is found on p. 70.

**Eben S., D.D.** was the youngest of thirteen children of Rev. Samuel Stearns and Abigail French. He graduated from Harvard College in 1841, studied theology, and was ordained as a minister of the gospel. During his ministry at Epping, N.H., he did faithful work in rescuing the records from oblivion, and in putting them into a condition to be of future use; but his life work was that of a teacher in several institutions for higher education. He taught in the Ipswich High School, and Free Street Female Seminary in Portland, and was principal of the Female High School in Newburyport for a term of five years. This experience prepared the way for him to do valuable work in the normal school in its experimental years. He took charge of the State Normal School of Massachusetts in September, 1849. It was then located at West Newton (was first established at Lexington in 1839). He was the third principal of the school, his predecessors having been Rev. Cyrus Pierce and Rev. Samuel J. May. The historical sketch prepared for the semi-centennial of the school, by Mrs. Electa N. L. Walton, has the following: "Mr. Stearns was devoted, earnest, exact, and gentlemanly, and won the cordial support of teachers and pupils. He had a nature of unusual gentleness, and a winsome humor that made him a delightful companion. As a teacher he inspired confidence in his pupils to do their best, while his recognition of any lady-like refinement in them was an inspiration to be true to his expectations. It seemed impossible to be rude or heedless under his observant eye. He impressed his pupils with the dignity of the teacher's work, and his influence upon them was lasting." Printed diplomas were first given at the close of his first year of work in this school.

Mr. Stearns was in the South, on account of a throat trouble, when the spring term of 1851 opened, and he addressed the school thus by letter: "Outspread before us lies its page of unsullied purity. . . . New hopes are the blossom wreaths that surround it, and guardian angels whisper encouragement and peace as they hold out and beckon us to write, and write we must and ever shall; there is no escape. We write with the blood of the soul, indistinct, pale at first it may be, but ere long to blaze forth in brightness more dazzling than the sun, and more enduring than if engraved on marble. Each letter, well formed or ill, each attempted erasure, each careless spot, each foul blot, remains. . . . Is it not, then, of the utmost importance that you begin rightly?"

In September, 1855, Mr. Stearns resigned, to take charge of the female academy at Albany, N.Y. He was chancellor of the State University of and principal of the State Normal School of Nashville for several years. He died while performing these double duties, in 1887. He was honored with the titles of D.D. and LL.D. in the last years of his useful life. He was twice married, and a widow and three children survive him.

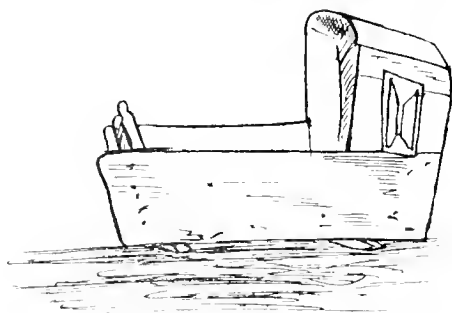
**STILES, Thomas**, of Moretown, Vt., came to Bedford a young man, served as clerk in a store, and became the proprietor and followed the business many years. He was a justice of the peace, and postmaster; was town clerk from 1846 to 1863, and in other important town offices. He m. April 11, 1838, Anna W. Reed. He d. Dec. 19, 1878; she d. Sept. 11, 1885.

**TAYLOR, John**, son of William and Mary (Merriam), b. Oct. 19, 1653, m. Mar. 26, 1678, Eunice Woolley. Ch. *Eunice*, Mary, m. Nathaniel Merriam, q.v. *Rebecca*, m. Joseph Bacon (see family and epitaph). *David*, m. Ruth Jones. *Jonathan*, m. Mary Jones.

Mrs. Eunice Taylor and her son-in-law, Dea. Nathaniel Merriam, gave a cup to the church, which is still preserved.

**Samuel**, b. in England, came to this country in 1840, wife d. in England in 1841; m. 2d, 1842, Anna Jane Langhard. He d. Dec. 17, 1883; she d. Feb. 22, 1884. Ch. *William* and *Alice*.

**WALTER, Frederick A.** b. in London, Eng., Mar. 2, 1834, m. 1850, Anne C. Hibbs, and settled in Bedford, 1872. He d. Mar. 7, 1881. Had 8 ch.



WEBBER CRADLE, USED BY THE FAMILY SINCE 1691.

**WEBBER, James**,<sup>1</sup> of Scotch descent, came from New York to Medford; b. probably 1665, d. Mar. 16, 1729, was father of Jonathan,<sup>2</sup> James,<sup>2</sup> Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> and Nathan.<sup>2</sup> The Webbers of Bedford descended through Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> who m. Sept. 6, 1727, Susanna Whitmore, dau. of John and Mary (Lane) Whitmore of Medford. (See Chap. VII.) He d. July 27, 1732; she m. 2d, Christopher Page of Bedford, d. July 20, 1792. Ch. *Susanna*, b. Mar. 21, 1728, d. April 2, 1743. *Martha*, b. Aug. 2, 1729, m. John Hosmer, both d. in Medford. *Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> b. Feb. 14, 1731, supposed to have settled near Pomfret, Conn. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 25, 1732.

**John**,<sup>2</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>2</sup> m. April, 1760, Sarah, dau. of Joseph and Amittah Fassett, who d. May, 9, 1782; m. 2d, Nov. 21, 1786, Susannah, dau. of Benjamin Simonds of Woburn, and widow of Ebenezer Page of Bedford. He d. April 29, 1868; she d. Feb. 5, 1825. Ch. *John*,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 31, 1760. *William*,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 20, 1762. *Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> b. Nov. 21, 1764. *Sarah*, b. Mar. 18, 1766, m. Roger Reed, d. Feb. 8, 1849. *John*,<sup>3</sup> b. May 16, 1769. *Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> b. Dec. 21, 1770. *James*,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 10, 1772. *Susanna*, b. Jan. 28, 1774, d. June 8, 1774. *Alice*,<sup>3</sup> b. June 20, 1775. *Thomas*,<sup>3</sup> b. Dec. 27, 1777, m. — Bacon, d. Aug. 6, 1846. *Lydia* and *Lucy*, twins, b. Oct. 27, 1780; Lydia m. Samuel Fletcher of Littleton, d. June 27, 1813; Lucy m. Elijah Putnam of Amherst, d. Sept. 20, 1837.

John Webber and Sarah Fassett had twelve children; eleven of them survived their mother, who died at the age of 38 years. The aggregate age of the eleven was 781 years; average, 71 years. The eight sons lived to an average age of about 76 years.

Capt. John Webber was possessed of a strong mind and great energy. In early life he followed the seas, and was not married until twenty-eight years of age. He lived in

East Bedford some years before he purchased the Danforth farm (Kenrick's). He bought the farm of Samuel Danforth in April, 1773. He was often in public service; was collector, treasurer, and clerk of the town, delegate in important conventions of the Revolutionary period, and representative.

**John**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Dec. 15, 1785, Bethiah Lane, dau. of Job<sup>4</sup> and Susanna. She d. Aug. 8, 1834; he d. Dec. 11, 1846. Ch. *Amathai*, b. Aug. 31, 1789, m. Zebedee Simonds, d. Feb. 20, 1853. *Bethiah Lane*, b. Aug. 16, 1799, m. Benjamin Reed of Lexington.

**William**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. May 10, 1791, Mary Abbott. He d. Sept. 25, 1833; she d. May 24, 1817. Ch. *Polley*, d. an infant. *Hiram*,<sup>5</sup> b. June 9, 1794. *William*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 19, 1799, m. Mariah Gifford of Charlestown, d. Mar. 1853. *Mary*, b. Feb. 22, 1799, m. Daniel Hartsborn. *Benjamin Abbott*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 25, 1802. *Betsy Abbott*, b. Aug. 26, 1806, m. George Wilson, d. Aug. 25, 1846. *Susanna*, b. Nov. 14, 1804, d. Sept. 5, 1855. *Moses*,<sup>5</sup> b. and d. 1811.

William Webber<sup>3</sup> was prominent in town affairs, being clerk almost one-fourth of a century; was representative to the General Court eight years, and enjoyed the confidence of his townsmen to the end of life. He was a justice of the peace.

**Joseph**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Oct. 5, 1794, Ruth Brooks of Woburn. He d. Aug. 24, 1844. Ch. *Joseph, Jr.*,<sup>5</sup> and possibly others.

**Job**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. June 21, 1796, Sarah Davis. He d. Oct. 10, 1838; she d. Jan. 31, 1861. Ch. *John*,<sup>5</sup> b. April 25, 1797, d. Sept. 24, 1879. *Sally* and *Nancy*, twins, b. June 9, 1798; Sally m. James Park, d. Dec. 27, 1857; Nancy, d. Mar. 6, 1879. *Artemas*,<sup>5</sup> b. May 3, 1800. *Job Page*,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 23, 1801, d. Feb. 10, 1875. *Eliza Farley*, b. June 12, 1805, d. Jan. 21, 1839. *Benjamin Newton*,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 24, 1812, m. Sept. 5, 1837, Ann Urie, d. Sept. 12, 1837.

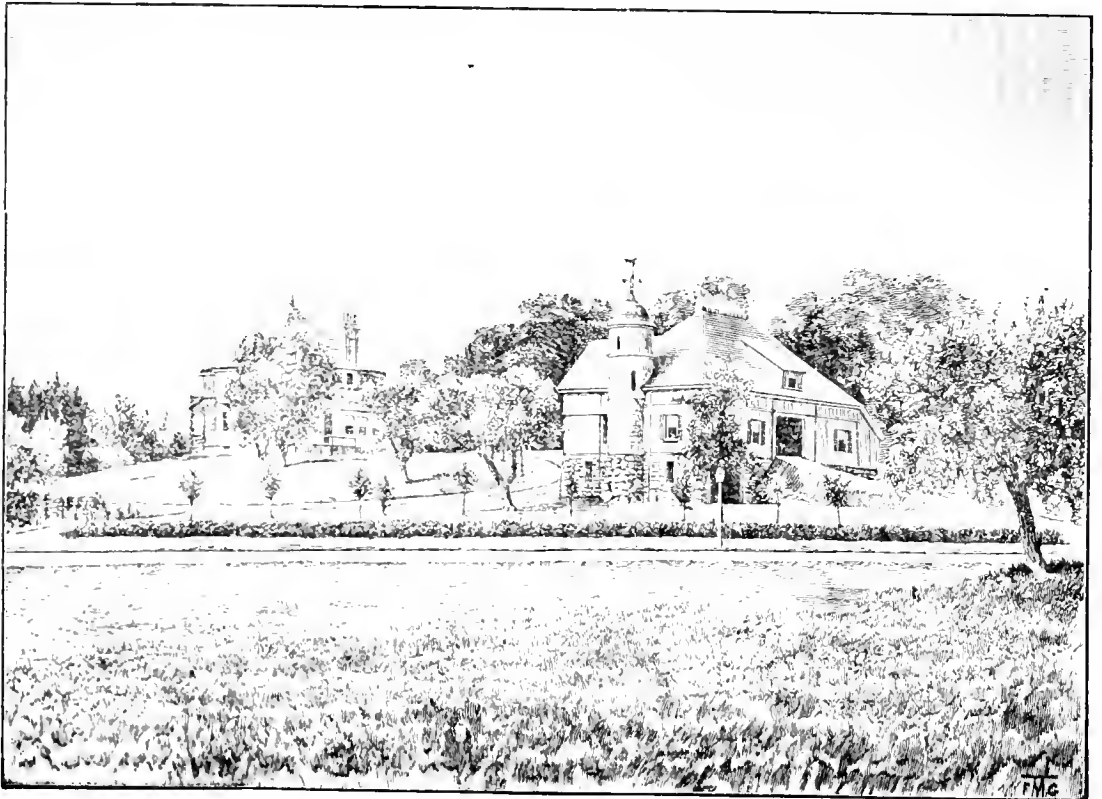
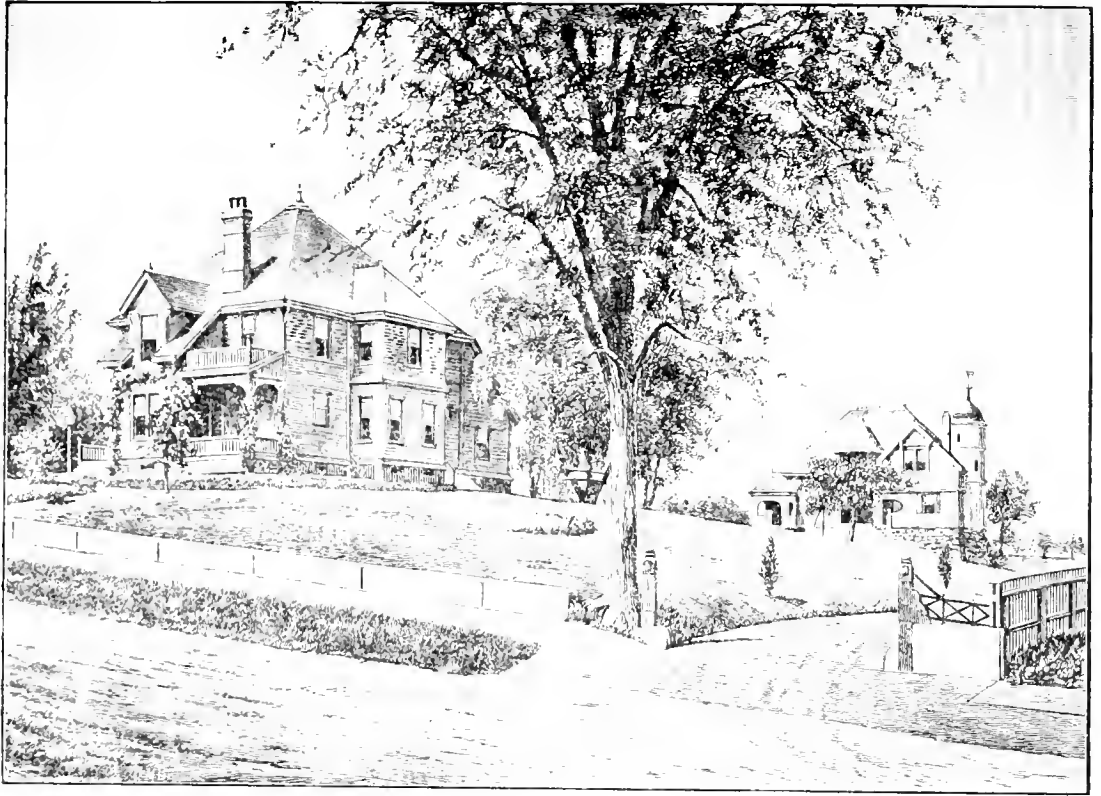
**James**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. Hannah Davis. He d. May 21, 1852; she d. Jan. 20, 1835. Ch. *Hannah Rebecca*, b. Sept. 16, 1810, d. Sept. 18, 1844. *Lydia Page*, b. Jan. 27, 1813, m. David Clark of Arlington. *William*,<sup>5</sup> (adopted son).

**Asa**,<sup>3</sup> son of John,<sup>2</sup> m. April 30, 1801, Eliot (Reed) Lane. He d. Nov. 8, 1850; she d. July 20, 1878. Ch. *Ruthamah*, b. April 14, 1802, m. Nov. 30, 1820, William Hartwell,<sup>6</sup> d. Aug. 31, 1879. *Eliot*, b. June 20, 1804, m. Eldridge Merriam, d. July 24, 1855. *John Lane*,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 3, 1808, m. Sarah Whitford, d. Feb. 12, 1859. *Lucy* and *Lydia*, twins, b. June 5, 1811; Lucy m. Nov. 13, 1828, Benjamin F. Hartwell, d. April 20, 1834; Lydia d. an infant.

**Hiram**,<sup>5</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. July 20, 1824, Fidelia Page. He d. Jan. 18, 1857; she d. April 5, 1834. Ch. *Mary Abbott*, b. July 10, 1825, d. young. *George Edward*,<sup>6</sup> b. Jan. 24, 1827, m. Sophia —. Has 2 ch. in California. *Harriet L.* m. G. L. Sanderson, lives in California. *Mary J.* m. T. H. Dearing, M.D., of Braintree. *Fidelia Page*, b. Feb. 25, 1834, adopted by Reuben Thorpe of Lowell, m. 1862, A. W. Sturdy of Attleboro.

**Benjamin Abbott**,<sup>5</sup> son of William,<sup>3</sup> m. April 12, 1826, Mary Ann Twist. He d. Aug. 7, 1846; she d. Aug. 9, 1890. Ch. *Caroline Matilda*, b. April 21, 1827, d. Feb. 9, 1839. *Levi William*,<sup>6</sup> b. Feb. 17, 1832. *Henry Phelps*,<sup>6</sup> b. Feb. 22, 1842, m. Esther Flint, d. May 6, 1890.

**Joseph, Jr.**,<sup>5</sup> son of Joseph,<sup>3</sup> m. 1819, Eliza Bacon. He d. in South America in 1849; she d. Feb. 16, 1890, in Minnesota. Ch. *Octa*,<sup>6</sup> b. 1819, resides in Manderville, La.



*Charles Stone*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 17, 1820, d. 1834 of cholera at New Orleans. *Theresa*, b. Mar. 9, 1824, m. 1844, Joseph Litchfield, d. 1853. *Joseph Thompson*<sup>6</sup> and *Henry Augustus*,<sup>6</sup> twins, b. Sept. 1828; Joseph T. d. June 1, 1844; Henry A. d. 1829. *Irene W.*, b. Jan. 26, 1837, m. Dec. 17, 1855, Benjamin F. Clark.

Mrs. Eliza Webber died at the home of her daughter, Irene W. Clark, Minneapolis, after a long and useful life of ninety years in the world which she helped to make beautiful. She was active in all reforms for the benefit of humanity, particularly her own sex. At the age of eighty-six she was made president of a woman's suffrage league, and was the first to cast her vote when school suffrage was granted to the women of Massachusetts, being then four-score years of age. She was a firm Spiritualist, active in temperance work, and in her last years, spent in Minneapolis, she became an enthusiastic Nationalist, and was an inspiration to the club by her own hopeful words concerning the brotherhood of humanity, a theme ever prominent in her thoughts.

**Artemas**,<sup>5</sup> son of John,<sup>4</sup> m. May 20, 1827, Sarah Wyman Richardson. He d. 1846; she d. 1874. Ch. **Marcus Bruce**,<sup>6</sup> b. Mar. 9, 1828. *Sarah Abigail*, b. Jan. 23, 1830, m. Henry Gleason, d. Dec. 23, 1876. *Ruth A.*, b. Feb. 16, 1834. *Maria Cordelia*, b. Dec. 4, 1837, m. Alvah Cotton.

**William**,<sup>5</sup> adopted son of James Webber and Hannah Davis, m. Oct. 11, 1835, Mary W. Gleason, d. Feb. 1848. Ch. **Charles W.**,<sup>6</sup> b. 1836. **William A.**,<sup>6</sup> b. 1840. **Edwin E.**,<sup>6</sup> b. 1843.

**Levi William**,<sup>6</sup> son of Benjamin,<sup>5</sup> m. Nancy J. Reed. Ch. *Abbott Reed*,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 23, 1877.

Levi W. Webber is a successful merchant in Boston.

**Marcus Bruce**,<sup>6</sup> son of Artemas,<sup>5</sup> m. Nov. 22, 1852, Elizabeth Frances Gleason. He d. Feb. 12, 1886; she d. 1887. Ch. *Kate Putnam*, b. Jan. 21, 1855, d. Aug. 12, 1864. **Wallace Gleason**,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 13, 1856. *Carrie Maria*, b. Aug. 9, 1858, d. May 23, 1881. *Arthur Wyman*,<sup>7</sup> b. Sept. 9, 1860, d. May 15, 1863. *Henry Francis*,<sup>7</sup> b. Dec. 7, 1862, d. Oct. 22, 1864. *Warren Putnam*,<sup>7</sup> b. May 12, 1864, d. Feb. 28, 1866. *Marian Waldo*, b. Oct. 21, 1865. *Alfred Augustus*<sup>6</sup> and *Alden Brown*,<sup>7</sup> twins, b. Nov. 28, 1868. *Lizzie Frances*, b. Jan. 15, 1871. *Olive Putnam*, b. Nov. 19, 1872. *Lewis Butler*,<sup>7</sup> b. June 4, 1875, d. Oct. 4, 1875. *Marcus Howard*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 10, 1876, d. Nov. 2, 1876.

Marcus B. Webber<sup>6</sup> was early engaged in the manufacture of shoes, later became a merchant, which business he followed until death. He was postmaster nearly a quarter of a century, selectman, collector of taxes, school committee, and in other positions of public trust within the gift of the town. He was superintendent of the Sabbath school connected with the Church of Christ and Trinity Congregational Society for twenty-five years. A memorial window, the gift of the Sabbath school, adorns the house of worship of that society, where he labored for the good of others.

**Charles W.**,<sup>6</sup> m. Mar. 17, 1869, Sarah A. Davis. Ch. *Mabel L.*, b. Dec. 30, 1869. *Arthur P.*,<sup>7</sup> b. Aug. 26, 1872. *Ernest W.*,<sup>7</sup> b. June 13, 1881.

**William A.**,<sup>6</sup> m. Francis M. Whitney. He is prominent in musical circles and an inventor of musical instruments.

**Edwin F.** m. Maria H. Kelley, who d. April 2, 1881. Ch. *Louise Gertrude*. He is a noted singer and musician.

**Wallace Gleason**,<sup>7</sup> son of Marcus B.,<sup>6</sup> m. June 22, 1881, Mary A. Putnam. Ch. *Carrie Putnam*, b. June 3, 1882.

*Paul Baron*,<sup>8</sup> b. April 27, 1884. *Marcus Bernard*,<sup>8</sup> b. Jan. 3, 1888. *Lewis Gleason*,<sup>8</sup> b. Aug. 30, 1891.

Wallace G. Webber<sup>7</sup> entered Blackstone Bank, Boston, as a boy, was rapidly promoted in positions of trust, until he resigned to form the copartnership of Paine, Webber & Co., Bankers and Brokers. He has met with financial success, and enjoys the honor and confidence of the public. His love for the town of his nativity and that of his ancestors led him to make many ventures to promote its welfare. He purchased tracts of land, opened streets and put house-lots into the market, and built many houses. His transactions in real estate in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and those of Joshua Page in the early part of the century, mark two very important epochs in the history of the town. He was chosen as his father's successor in the superintendence of the Sabbath school, where he is a faithful worker. He is president of the Bedford Lumber and Manufacturing Company, also president of the Bedford House Association. He was chairman of the Building Committee of the Union School House.

Twins seem to be an inheritance in the Webber family. Twin daughters were born to Capt. John<sup>1</sup> and Sarah (Fasset) Webber. There were two instances in the third generation, viz., to Job<sup>2</sup> and Sarah (Davis) Webber, and also to Asa<sup>2</sup> and Eliot (Reed) Webber. (Sarah Davis was a twin. See Davis family.) Joseph,<sup>5</sup> Jr., and Eliza Bacon had twins. Twins were born to Marcus B.,<sup>6</sup> and Elizabeth F. (Gleason) Webber, and Elizabeth F. Gleason was a twin.

**WILSON, or WILLSON.** The family was located in the Shawshine district very early in the history of the settlement.

"John (Sen.), first appears upon the tax-list in Woburn, in the rate for the country, assessed 26 Aug. 1666, and is numbered among those who had right in the common lands of the town in 1668." (Sewall's Woburn.)

His son John is doubtless the one who had a grant of thirty acres of land, in 1685, "for encouragement towards his corn-mill." He was established there as a miller before that date, as in 1683 Billerica voted "to give one days work of each man in ye town and of team of those that have them for the making a sufficient way to John Wilson's corn-mill." According to Billerica records, "21. 3<sup>m</sup>. 1683, at a town meeting on a training day, the town granted to John Wilson, Junr. privilege upon our commons for ye future, to the proportion of a five-acre lot, he paying to ye town's use twenty shillings in silver, within six months." John Wilson, Jr. (Lieutenant), was prominent in the early wars, "at the Eastward," in 1692-3, and Cotton Mather says "distinguished himself by the relief of Dover from an Indian alarm."

Lieut. John<sup>2</sup> died in Bedford, Feb. 1, 1735, aged 84 years. There are several depressions on the surface, on the Wilson farm, that suggest early cellars; and family traditions strengthen the evidence. The records prove that several families were flourishing here soon after the incorporation. The several heads may have been sons of John.<sup>2</sup>

"Mr. Samuel Wilson, Jr., d. Jan. 21, 1740.

"Mr. Joseph Wilson, Jr., d. Sept. 12, 1748, aged 43.

"Mr. Ebenezer Wilson, d. Mar. 9, 1751.

"Rhoda, dau. of Mr. Joseph Wilson, Dec. 17, 1753.

"Mr. David Wilson m. July, 1755, Judith Johnson of Woburn.

"Mr. David Wilson d. Jan. 23, 1757.



"Jacob, the son of Jacob and Hannah Wilson, b. Sept. 19, 1734."

John<sup>2</sup> and Rebecca deed to sons Francis<sup>3</sup> and Samuel<sup>3</sup> the mills and homestead in Bedford, Feb. 23, 1729.

**Francis,**<sup>3</sup> m. Patience —. Ch. *Rebecca*, b. May 7, 1733, m. William Maxwell of Bedford. Probably had other children, among whom was **h James**.<sup>4</sup>

**James,**<sup>4</sup> m. Lydia —, d. June 24, 1753. Ch. *Lydia*, b. April 22, 1744. *Ruth*, b. Oct. 6, 1745. *Mary*, b. June 17, 1748. *Patter*, b. Aug. 30, 1750. **h James**,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 14, 1752.

**James,**<sup>5</sup> m. Abi Wheeler, d. 1825. Ch. *Abi*, m. Amos Butters. *James*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 14, 1775, m. Dolly Gleason. *John*,<sup>6</sup> m. Polly Goodwin. *Thaddeus*,<sup>6</sup> b. Nov. 10, 1778, m. Mar. 11, 1802, Molly Lane. **h Francis**,<sup>6</sup> b. Mar. 15, 1781. *Lydia*, m. — Woodward. *Phineas*.<sup>6</sup>

**Francis,**<sup>6</sup> m. Elizabeth Colburn. Ch. **h Francis**,<sup>7</sup> b. Dec. 16, 1804. *Elizabeth*, b. Sept. 27, 1807, m. Charles Spaulding.

**Francis,**<sup>7</sup> m. Feb. 7, 1828, Alvira Heath. He d. Jan. 12, 1857; she d. Aug. 19, 1860. Ch. *Alvira A.* b. Feb. 23, 1830, d. Oct. 21, 1885. *Emeline S.* b. Sept. 9, 1823, m. Willard Brockway, d. April 24, 1870. *Addie*, b. Feb. 1839, d. July, 1860. *Nellie L.* b. Mar. 10, 1845, m. James Holmes of Plymouth, N.H.

**Jonathan** (Capt.) (generation uncertain), m. a dau. of Hugh Maxwell; m. 2d, Oct. 8, 1761, Elizabeth (Stearns), widow of John Bacon. Ch. **h Jonathan, Jr.**, b. 1763.

Capt. Jonathan Wilson was killed April 10, 1775. (See epitaph and military history.)

**Jonathan, Jr.**, m. July 24, 1784, Rebekah Page, d. Sept. 25, 1797. Ch. *Susanna*, b. Feb. 8, 1785, m. June 17, 1800, Timothy Jones. *Lena*, b. April 2, 1788, m. April 8, 1813, Sukey Harrington. *Cyrus*, b. Nov. 28, 1790 (at Lexington), d. Dec. 8, 1790. *Amey*, b. Oct. 14, 1792, m. Jan. 23, 1814, Parley Robbins.

Jonathan Wilson, Jr., served a campaign of three months, in 1780, in Rhode Island. (See Chap. XXVIII.)

**WOOD.** The first of the name in this town descended from William, who settled in Concord in 1638. The line is William,<sup>1</sup> Michael,<sup>2</sup> Jacob,<sup>3</sup> Capt. Ephram,<sup>4</sup> Ephram, Esq.,<sup>5</sup> (Judge), Daniel,<sup>6</sup> Elijah,<sup>7</sup> Henry<sup>8</sup> (who settled in Bedford in 1850).

**Henry,**<sup>8</sup> m. Nov. 20, 1848, Lydia Augusta Willis. She d. Nov. 9, 1883. Ch. *Elizabeth F.* b. Aug. 26, 1849, m. Albert R. Boynton. **h Charles H.** b. June 20, 1851.

Henry Wood is a flourishing farmer, has been prominent in town office, and was representative to the General Court from District No. 18 in 1883.

**Charles H.**<sup>4</sup> m. July 28, 1870, Harriet F. March. Ch. *Henry March*,<sup>10</sup> b. and d. Nov. 1871. *Frances Lydia*, b. Mar. 5, 1873. *Howard March*,<sup>10</sup> b. Mar. 22, 1875. *May Josephine*, b. Mar. 17, 1876. *Elizabeth Farmer*, b. Aug. 26, 1878. *Geor e Henry*,<sup>10</sup> b. Dec. 12, 1881. *Florence Willis*, b. Feb. 10, 1890.

For **Stephen A.** (M.D.) see professional men.

For **WOOLLEY**, see Homesteads.

**WRIGHT.** The name appears here before the Revolution. Judah and Tabitha had Tabitha, Betty, and Patty.

**James** and Ruth (probably Fassett) established the family here. He d. Dec. 24, 1818; she d. Jan. 9, 1830. (See epitaphs.) Ch. *Ruth*, b. Aug. 9, 1769, d. Sept. 16, 1775. *Sally*, b. Dec. 12, 1772, d. Sept. 2, 1775. **h James**, b. Nov. 2, 1774. **h John Tidd**, b. Dec. 16, 1777. *Betsy*, b. Aug. 6, 1779, m. Joseph Brown, d. June 30, 1818.

James Wright was in the Revolution, was a deacon of the church from 1785 to 1817, and a leader in the music of the church services.

**James**, m. Mar. 16, 1797, Dorcas Page. He d. Mar. 27, 1826; she d. Nov. 22, 1846. Ch. *Timothy Page*, d. young. **h Joseph Bixby**, b. Sept. 13, 1804. *Dorcas Emily*, b. July 12, 1806, m. Seth Sweetser of Woburn. *Sally*, b. Sept. 22, 1808, m. Abel S. Monroe. *Betsy*, b. Mar. 28, 1810, m. Edmund Hoar. *Margaret S.* d. young. *Caroline*, b. Sept. 28, 1814.

**John T.** m. Oct. 11, 1796, Hannah Proctor. Ch. *Hannah*, *Ruthy*, *Gloriana*, and others.

**Joel** and Dolly H. had *George Cleveland*, b. Jan. 7, 1823.

**Joseph Bixby**, m. Mary E. Smith. He d. July 18, 1879; she d. Oct. 5, 1857. Ch. *James E.* b. Aug. 16, 1833 (vinegar manufacturer in Cambridge). *Henry E.* b. 1836 (can manufacturer in Somerville).



LANE HOMESTEAD.

Built by John Lane<sup>4</sup> about 1750, continued in the family possession by Jonathan,<sup>5</sup> Jonathan,<sup>6</sup> and birthplace of Hon. Jonathan A. Lane.<sup>7</sup> (See Homesteads, p. 102.)

Weep not that the world changes—did it keep  
A stable, changeless course, 'twere cause to weep.

—Bryant.

COMMONWEALTH  
OF  
MASSACHUSETTS.

By His Honor

Samuel Adams, Esq.

Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief

OF THE COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS.

To Abner Stearns Gentleman Greeting.

YOU being appointed *Ensign of a company*  
*in the seventh Regiment (Second Brigade)*  
*Third* Division of the Militia of this Commonwealth,  
comprehending the *County of Middlesex* —

By Virtue of the Power vested in me, I do by these Presents (reposing special Trust and Confidence in your Ability, Courage and good Conduct) Commission you accordingly; You are, therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of a *Ensign* in Leading, Ordering and Exercising said *Company* in Arms, both inferior Officers and Soldiers; and to keep them in good Order and Discipline: And they are hereby commanded to obey you, as their *Ensign*. And you are yourself to observe and follow such Orders and Instructions, as you shall from Time to Time, receive from me, or your superior Officers.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the said Commonwealth, the *Twentieth* Day of *October* in the Year of our LORD, 1793 and in the *Eighteenth* Year of the INDEPENDENCE of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

By His HONOR's Command,

*John Avery, junr Secy*

*Sam<sup>l</sup> Adams*

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## ERRATA AND ADDENDA.

Page 5, first paragraph, for *fifty-nine* read *fifty-four*.

Page 5, second column, for *Buckley* read *Bulkeley*.

Page 17, first paragraph, for *Rev. George Piper* read *Rev. George F. Piper*.

Page 17, tenth line from bottom, left column, for *five* read *four*.

Page 19, first paragraph, for *Rev. William F. Stearns* read *Rev. William A. Stearns*.

EPITAPHS, page 82. Mary Abbott d. 1807 read 1801.

" page 87, line 20, for *Amittai* read *Amelia*.

HOMESTEADS, page 94, Nathaniel 3d means third Nathaniel in possession.

Squadron south of Oakes Farm divided in 1707 instead of 1708.

GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL, page 4, read Abigail Clark Bacon d. 1851 not 1857.

" " " page 4, last paragraph, for *Frank* read *Francis Warren*, as on page 59 in General History.

" " " page 23, Sammel L. Lane d. Sept. 11, 1891.

" " " page 29, read Lot m. *Lucibia*, not *Lucretia*.

" " " page 36, in family of Edwin Russell Stearns, George,<sup>9</sup> b. Oct. 14, 1891.

# APPENDIX, 1892.

## SECTION I

The pastorate of Rev. Samuel Andrew Dyberg (see page 55), which had a most auspicious opening, was terminated in about nine months by the failing health of the pastor. Mr. Dyberg labored earnestly for the upbuilding of the ancient Society, occupied a large place in the affections of his people, and was highly esteemed by the entire community. He reluctantly quitted his labors in this town in the fall of 1891, carrying away abundant and substantial evidences of the love of his people and confidence of the Unitarian denomination of the state of Massachusetts.

The name of Uriah Goodwin should be added to the list of deacons of the Unitarian church (page 55).

The renovation of the meeting-house of the First Parish (page 55) was completed in the early months of 1892. By these changes the spacious galleries, no longer of use in the service of worship, were thrust aside into rooms for social purposes, and the auditorium was artistically returned to somewhat of its original design.

The Union School House (page 170) was dedicated on Dec. 31, 1891, with a program as follows:

Music by Bellini, Cornelia  
Song by School Children  
Reading of Scripture by First Parish School  
Dedication Prayer by Rev. Theodore Conway  
Song by Arthur Buttrick of Boston  
Formal Declaration of Knowledge by Wm. W. Lane, Chairman of Bedford Unitarian Church, and by John W. W. Lane, Chairman of Selectmen, and by John W. W. Lane, Chairman of Church and School Board  
Address by "Friend School," by "Hisself," by Abram Eggleston of Boston  
Song by Arthur Buttrick, of Boston  
Address by George A. Watson of State Board of Education  
Song by School Children  
Remarks by Rev. John W. W. Lane, James S. Conway and George E. Piper; by Rev. T. McKenney, Supervisors of Schools; Hon. Jonathan A. Fitch, Mayor of the town, who tendered the gift of a clock for the use of the school; Mrs. Martha Hildsager, a native of the town and a former teacher  
Song by "America"  
Benediction by Rev. D. W. Richardson

## SECTION II

**MARCH, Aaron H.** (see page 63), died Oct. 25, 1891, aged 85 years, 3 months. He was one of four children of Joshua March and Judith Hodgkins, born at Walpole, N.

H. He went when a young man to Boston, where he established himself in business. He married in 1835 Mary J. Shedd, a woman of excellent qualities, who died April 6, 1885. They had seven children. Having accumulated a competency, he retired from business and settled in Bedford in 1865, where he passed the remainder of his life, enjoying the respect and confidence of the people. He was a member of the Board of Selectmen in 1875-6. When, in April, 1877, the question arose of providing a room for the Bedford Free Public Library, Mr. March tendered the free use of a suitable building for that purpose. This was gratefully accepted, and the generous act was annually repeated during his life, a period of almost fifteen years. The cash value of this gratuity cannot be rated less than thirteen hundred dollars,—a larger sum than the town has ever received from any individual by the way of gift.

**HUCKINS, Samuel W.** (see page 63) died Feb. 8, 1892, aged 74 years. Mr. Huckins settled on the Samuel Lane share of the Wainthrop Farm (see page 193) about 1860, and lived here until the remainder of his life. His good judgment prompted his townsmen to honor him with various offices, in which he was a faithful servant of the town.

**LANE, Oliver W.** (see page 210) was a deacon of the first Universalist Church of Boston, house of worship on Bennett Street. He presided at the installation of Rev. John Murray as pastor of that church Oct. 23, 1793, "in a very appropriate and affecting manner."

Oliver Wellington Lane<sup>5</sup> m. Oct. 23, 1784, Susannah Newnam, and d. Nov. 3, 1793. Ch. *James Beccadun*<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 4, 1785. *Augustus Frederick*<sup>6</sup> b. Aug. 12, 1787. *Thomas Percival*<sup>6</sup> b. July 14, 1789. *Mary Wellington* and *Susannah Agerman* (twins), b. Mar. 30, 1791. Mary Wellington m. Elijah Clark. *John Murray*<sup>6</sup> b. Apr. 20, 1793, d. June 26, 1794. Susannah Lane (widow of Oliver W. m. Levi Lane. Ch. *Hannah, John, Harriet, Francis*.

Oliver W. Lane was interred in the Old Granary Burying Ground, Boston. Inscription on stone as follows:

"Beneath this spot reposes the mortal part of Mr. Oliver W. Lane, Junr., Deacon of the Universalist church in Boston. Ob't Nov. 3d, 1793, aged 42 years, in whom was united the real christian, the accomplished gentleman, and unrivalled preceptor.

Beside the parent sleeps his son

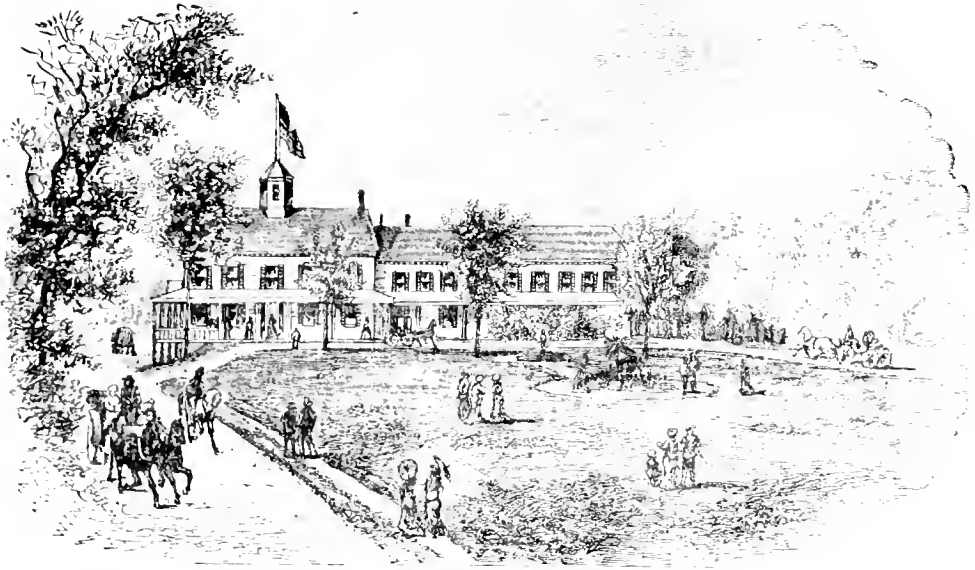
John Murray Lane, ob't June 26th, 1794, aged 14 months

The stock and scion sprang from the same root.

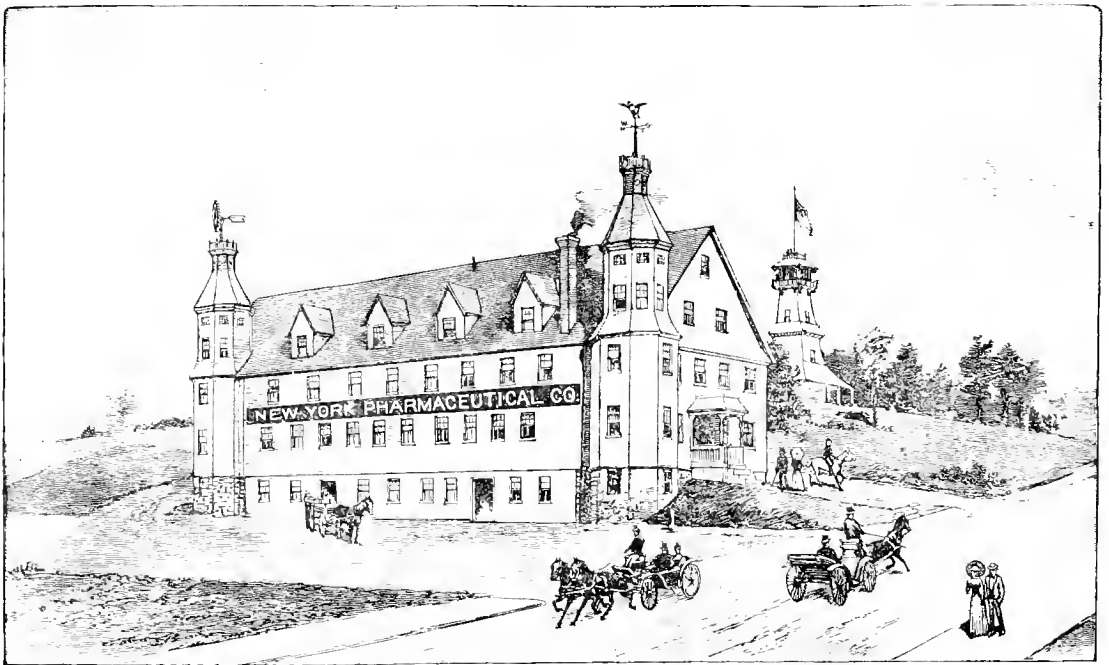
Entwined in Heaven they bear immortal fruit "



VIEW OF FAUN LAKE AND BEDFORD SPRINGS.



SPRINGS HOUSE.



LABORATORY, BEDFORD SPRINGS, 1892.

















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